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01 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

02 PUBLIC HEARING

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04 IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 103, 2005 - AMENDING THE

04 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, AS

05 CODIFIED SECTION 6-13 - APPROPRIATION,

05 OTHERWISE REFERRED TO AS ARTICLE VI, SECTION

06 602-APPROPRIATION, WITHIN FILE OF THE COUNCIL

06 NO. 66, 1984, AN ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, AND

07 WITHIN FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 29, 1994, AN

07 ORDINANCE, THEREBY AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL

08 NO. 195, 2003 TO THE EXTENT IT IS INCONSISTENT

08 HERewith.

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11 Held:

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12 Thursday, February 17, 2005

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14 Time:

14 6:15 p.m.

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16 Location:

17 Council chambers

17 Scranton City Hall

18 340 North Washington Avenue

18 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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22 Lisa M. Graff, RPR

23 Court Reporter

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01 CITY OF SCRANTON COUNCIL:

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02 MR. GARY DIBILEO, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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03 MS. JANET E. EVANS, VICE-PRESIDENT

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04 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

05

05 MR. JOHN POCIUS

06

06 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

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07 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

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08 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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01 MR. DIBILEO: We have a public

02 hearing to hold, and the purpose of said public hearing

03 is to hear testimony and discuss the following:

04

05 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 103, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -

06 AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF

07 SCRANTON, AS CODIFIED SECTION 6-13 -

08 APPROPRIATION, OTHERWISE REFERRED TO AS ARTICLE

09 VI, SECTION 602-APPROPRIATION, WITHIN FILE OF

10 THE COUNCIL NO. 66, 1984, AN ORDINANCE, AS
11 AMENDED, AND WITHIN FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 29,
12 1994, AN ORDINANCE, THEREBY AMENDING FILE OF
13 THE COUNCIL NO. 195, 2003 TO THE EXTENT IT IS
14 INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

15

16 MR. DIBILEO: We have a sign-in
17 sheet regarding this public hearing, and the only
18 speaker on the list is Andy Sbaraglia.

19 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
20 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, as you know
21 when this came and they changed this the last time, I
22 opposed it. I said we need more credibility of
23 checking what is happening within these departments.
24 And when they can transfer funds
25 within a department but to different parts of the
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01 department, you really don't have no way of telling
02 what's going on, and it's a good idea to have more --
03 well, you want as much credibility as you can get
04 within the departments than actually know what is going
05 on.

06 And when budget comes up again,
07 you can see if you can change money going to these
08 departments and where it went in the departments and
09 maybe what you can do to streamline these departments.
10 That's the whole idea of this, to try to save money,
11 and that's the only way you can do it, is to really
12 have control of where this money is going.
13 I'm not going to talk long on it,
14 because I talked like heck the first time it was done.
15 It didn't get nowhere. Probably won't get nowhere this
16 time, but again I'm speaking on it. And I thank you.

17 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
18 Mr. Sbaraglia. Would anyone else like to speak on this
19 particular subject matter?

20 MS. KRAKE: Good evening, Council.
21 I'm Nancy Krake. I think it's very important that this
22 ordinance be changed. I'm not too sure that the mayor
23 will not veto it, but I still believe that it was worth
24 doing.

25 As Councilman DiBileo pointed out,
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01 when this mayor was on Council, this is how the
02 ordinance read. And it's not to say that it's anything
03 against the way the administration does business, but
04 it's in the spirit of working with Council.
05 I think it would behoove the mayor

06 to not veto this. Thank you.
07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
08 Mrs. Krake. Anyone else on this public hearing? If
09 not, we'll adjourn and we'll be back at 6:45 for
10 another public hearing involving a liquor license
11 transfer. We're adjourned.
12 (HEARING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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01 C E R T I F I C A T E

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02 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
03 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
03 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and
04 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to
04 the best of my ability.

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08 _____
08 LISA M. GRAFF, RPR
08 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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01 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

02 PUBLIC HEARING

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04 IN RE: FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 108, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -

04 APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR

05 LICENSE IN THE NAME OF ABB'S INC. T/A ABB'S

05 BOROUGH OF MAYFIELD, LICENSE NO. R-15256 TO THE

06 STILL, INC., FOR USE AT 335-339 ADAMS AVENUE,

06 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS REQUIRED BY

07 THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

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10 Held:

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11 Thursday, February 17, 2005

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13 Time:

13 6:45 p.m.

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15 Location:

15 Council chambers

16 Scranton City Hall

16 340 North Washington Avenue

17 Scranton, Pennsylvania

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05 MR. JOHN POCIUS

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06 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

07

07 MR. MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR

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08 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

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09 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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01 MR. DIBILEO: We have a second
02 public hearing to hold this evening right now, and I'll
03 ask Kay for a roll call, please, Kay.

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Here.

06 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

07 MS. EVANS: Here.

08 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

09 MR. POCIUS: Here.

10 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Here. We'll

14 The purpose of said public hearing is to hear
15 testimony and discuss the following:

16

17 FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 108, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -
18 APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR
19 LICENSE IN THE NAME OF ABB'S INC. T/A ABB'S
20 BOROUGH OF MAYFIELD, LICENSE NO. R-15256 TO THE
21 STILL, INC., FOR USE AT 335-339 ADAMS AVENUE,
22 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS REQUIRED BY
23 THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

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01 MR. DIBILEO: I have a sign-in
02 sheet for this public hearing, and there's no one
03 listed on it. Would anyone in the audience like to
04 speak on this matter this evening?

05 If not, I'll adjourn the

06 meeting, and we will be back in about nine minutes at

07 seven o'clock for our regular meeting. So, we're

08 adjourned for this public hearing.
09 (HEARING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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01 C E R T I F I C A T E

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03 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
03 notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and
04 that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to
04 the best of my ability.

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08 LISA M. GRAFF, RPR
08 OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

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02 SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
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08 Held:
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09 Thursday, February 17, 2005
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16 340 North Washington Avenue

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05 MS. JANET E. EVANS, VICE-PRESIDENT

06

07 MR. WILLIAM COURTRIGHT

08

09 MR. JOHN POCIUS

10

11 MR. ROBERT McTIERNAN

12

13 MR. MARK WALSH, ESQUIRE, SOLICITOR (Arrived late.)

14

15 MR. JAY SAUNDERS, CITY CLERK

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17 MS. KAY GARVEY, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

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01 MR. DIBILEO: Please stand for the
02 Pledge of Allegiance. Please remain standing for a
03 short prayer. Kay, can we have a roll call, please?

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

05 MR. McTIERNAN: Here.

06 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

07 MS. EVANS: Here.

08 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

09 MR. POCIUS: Here.

10 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Here.

12 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Here. Before we
14 begin tonight, Mrs. Evans asked if she can say a word
15 or two. Mrs. Evans.

16 MS. EVANS: I'm very happy to
17 report that our good friend and a former firefighter,
18 Donny Mayer, is home from the hospital at last.
19 And this is National Salute To

20 Hospitalized Veterans Week, and my students and I
21 visited the VA Hospital earlier this week, and I just
22 wanted on behalf of Council to send our gratitude and
23 our prayers to all fine men and women who are in
24 hospitals who have served our country so bravely.
25 And I had also heard, I don't know

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01 if anyone else had, that there was a bad accident this
02 afternoon, and -- oh, yesterday, and Mrs. Wardell, who
03 had been a former Council candidate, who is very active
04 in the Plot Neighborhood Association was injured, and
05 so I ask you, please, to keep her in your prayers.
06 That's all.

07 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
08 Mrs. Evans. I understand that Mary Ann Wardell is not
09 doing very good at all. She was struck by a car last
10 night, yesterday, and she's very active in the
11 League Of Women Voters of Northeastern Pennsylvania,
12 and if we can, can we have just a moment of silence for
13 Mary Ann, please? Thank you very much. Jay, if we can
14 dispense with the reading of the minutes now.

15 MR. SAUNDERS: 3-A, PETITIONS FOR
16 INSTALLATION OF A LOADING ZONE SIGN AT 967 PRESCOTT
17 AVENUE.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any
19 comments on 3-A?

20 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I
21 think this should be sent down to the Bureau of Police
22 Traffic Division like, I guess, a report back to
23 Council on the, you know, legality of installing the
24 sign at that location.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. That would be
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01 fine. Thank you.

02 MR. SAUNDERS: 3-B, APPLICATIONS
03 AND DECISIONS RENDERED BY THE ZONING HEARING BOARD ON
04 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2005.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any
06 comments on 3-B? If not, received and filed.

07 MR. SAUNDERS: 3-C, AGENDA FOR THE
08 CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,
09 FEBRUARY 15, 2005.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Are there any
11 comments on 3-C? If not, received and filed.

12 MR. SAUNDERS: 3-D, Clerk's notes.

13 Mr. President, I spoke to today Donny Davis, he's the
14 recycling coordinator for the City of Scranton. He
15 called me today to let me know the city successfully
16 picked up the Christmas trees this week and they picked
17 up 35 ton of Christmas trees.

18 He also mentioned the drop-off
19 areas were very successful. They plan to do that again
20 next year. He also mentioned that at last week's
21 meeting we discussed the leaves throughout the city
22 that DPW, as far as they're concerned, they have picked
23 up all the leaves. If you do have a problem and your
24 leaves are still out, please call DPW, they will send
25 somebody out for them.

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01 The 900 block of Moltke Avenue
02 that we spoke about last week at the meeting, somebody
03 had a problem and the Council was going to look into
04 it, we sent a letter out to George Parker.

05 George sent us a letter back, he
06 responded saying that the field viewed and scoped the
07 proposed work needed in order to rectify the
08 underground and the surface water problem up there.

09 The plan is to incorporate this
10 work with the road surfacing for the 2005 season. So,
11 that road is going to be resurfaced and there's some
12 underground work that has to be done there to rectify
13 this problem. So, they plan to do that in the early
14 spring.

15 Last week we also sent out some

16 letters. A handicapped accessible curbing on Harrison
17 Avenue, the right side traveling towards Moosic Street.
18 I believe Councilwoman Evans had brought that up.
19 Mr. Parker responded by saying Harrison Avenue and
20 Moosic Street are state-owned and maintained highways
21 under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Department
22 of Transportation, PennDOT.
23 PennDOT usually does that when
24 they're resurfacing, and he doesn't know when they will
25 be resurfacing, but he will let us know when that is
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01 taking place.

02 Also, the potholes on Grandview
03 Street and North Washington Avenue need repair.
04 Mr. Parker said they will be repaired as soon as
05 possible.

06 The crosswalks, we talked about
07 last week about painting crosswalks at intersections.
08 He said they will not be painted before March 12, since
09 the temperature is too cold.

10 So, in reading that letter, it
11 looks like after March 12, they will start doing that,
12 painting the crosswalks.

13 On a Council note, I'm happy to
14 say that for the first time since I've been the city
15 clerk, and probably five -- maybe three to five years
16 before that, we are caught up with our minutes in our
17 office.

18 A little quick history of that is
19 when the Council meetings became a little bigger than
20 they usually were, probably three times the size they
21 used to be, Mary Ann Kitlas was the Assistant City
22 Clerk, and she did the minutes by shorthand and also
23 was Assistant City Clerk, so she had a lot to do in the
24 office and do the minutes.

25 The minutes fell behind as the
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01 expansion of the meetings took place. We were three to
02 five years behind in those minutes. We are finally
03 caught up.

04 And I have to publicly thank Lisa
05 for doing that. Lisa Graff came on and took that on
06 and caught us up to date. And as we speak, the last
07 meeting that we had of Council is on our website. If
08 you want to review the minutes of our meeting, they
09 will be on our website. So, I have to publicly thank
10 Mary Ann for keep us afloat for all those years, Mary
11 Ann Kitlas, and thank you to Lisa for keeping us that

12 way.

13 And that's not to put the pressure
14 on you to make sure every week that we're caught up.
15 That's it.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Jay. And
17 that was an awesome job getting caught up on the
18 minutes of all the meetings being so far behind when
19 you began this job, and I just want to say hats off to
20 you and to Lisa and to Kay and to Neil and a great job
21 done by everyone. Thank you very much.

22 And, Jay, you mentioned the
23 Christmas tree pickup, that was a good job by DPW. I
24 got mine picked up on Saturday myself. And the
25 Providence Square island had a Christmas tree, a large
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01 one, and I was up that way this week, as a matter of
02 fact, Mr. Courtright and I were there, and the island
03 itself has a lot of debris from the Christmas tree that
04 was standing at one time, which is now removed, and it
05 can use a good cleanup in general besides just what's
06 left of the Christmas tree there. If you can just send
07 a little note over to DPW on that, I'd greatly
08 appreciate it. And thank you very much.

09 MR. SAUNDERS: Fourth, order
10 citizens participation.

11 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. I have a
12 sign-in sheet, and the first person listed is Andy
13 Sbaraglia.

14 MR. SBARAGLIA: Andy Sbaraglia,
15 citizen of Scranton. Fellow Scrantonians, and I will
16 keep the five minutes.

17 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.

18 MR. SBARAGLIA: Like I said
19 before, when I left the podium last week, you mentioned
20 that you had tried to place the \$600,000 in the budget,
21 and the mayor vetoed it. So, that's all we got to say.
22 You tried, but the mayor vetoed it. So, if he wasn't
23 interested, I can see why you might be a little
24 hesitant to see why.

25 Now, I have before me one of the
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01 notices that was put out for the DPW site. It was put
02 in the paper, and it's fairly accurate, and I'm going
03 to speak mainly on the things that were in the
04 contract.

05 Like I said before, it's coming
06 before you again, and this is the time to speak about
07 it. If you wish, I'll give it to you; if not, then

08 I'll just speak on it. But it might be easier -- it's
09 easier to follow if you got the article.
10 MR. DIBILEO: Sure. Bring it up.
11 MR. SBARAGLIA: Unless you want to
12 rate contract which is quite lengthy.
13 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.
14 MR. SBARAGLIA: When the mayor had
15 this deal with Mr. Burke, he was going to -- the
16 original deal Mr. Doherty brought to Council would have
17 allowed Mr. Burke to lease a property for 99 years rent
18 free. Well, that's not quite true.
19 It was 198 years for a dollar a
20 year. This is a contract he brought before Council.
21 Now, how anybody could come up with a contract like
22 that is beyond me.
23 But anyway, he did come up with
24 it. And what was the responsibility of the citizens of
25 Scranton? Well, originally we were in hock for \$1.5
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01 million to build a new complex, but we can all see that
02 we're now paying probably \$15 million for this complex
03 by the time we own it, when we feel like we got two
04 different loans on this complex, one with the
05 Sewer Authority and one with the original bond holders.
06 The site originally was appraised
07 for \$1.1 million in 1999, and of course when the deal
08 was signed, the amended contract was brought before
09 Council. It was now \$600,000.
10 And the amended contract that I
11 speak so much about, and the original contract, was
12 that the amended contract, they put the \$600,000, which
13 looked real, real good, and then they put the kicker in
14 it with the SRA.
15 I have nothing wrong with this man
16 paying \$600,000 for that parcel, but I don't see why
17 the SRA should get anything to do with this; in other
18 words, this should be his responsibility.
19 He wants the land? He buys the
20 land, just like you buy a house. You shouldn't have to
21 get all these special favors. If you read that
22 original contract, that man was given everything he
23 wanted. He was given a silver spoon.
24 And I guess if I didn't open my
25 mouth originally when this was brought up, he would
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01 have got the silver spoon. He would have gotten a
02 golden one actually, because he would have had 198
03 years. But that was done, that was done.

04 Now, after this parcel was leased,
05 the state allowed for an increase in the KOZs. Now,
06 this parcel was already under development when you
07 granted a KOZ status to this place.
08 So, now this man has a KOZ, he got
09 the land, he's sitting on a KOZ originally, too,
10 because I think he got KOZ'd, so he got a KOZ on this
11 whole parcel.
12 He got \$600,000, where it was
13 assessed at \$1.1 million. He got that deal. Now it
14 comes down to the final thing. He's looking for SRA.
15 And I don't care.
16 Planning commission, right, that's
17 their responsibility to plan what he does there, but
18 SRA is notorious for giving away grants. And when this
19 little piece of legislation comes before you, I wish
20 you'd make sure that there's no grants.
21 Loans, fine, the man is entitled
22 to a loan if he can get a low-interest loan, if
23 somebody's willing to give it to him, fine, but why are
24 we giving grants? Second one already? Thank you.
25 MR. DIBILEO: Is that the first
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01 one, Jay?
02 MR. SAUNDERS: No, it was the
03 second one.
04 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Thank you.
05 Regina Yetkowskas.
06 MS. YETKOWSKAS: Regina
07 Yetkowskas, Scranton resident and taxpayer. Last week
08 I concluded by speaking about the outside contractor
09 and a duty of City Council to draft a resolution which
10 prohibits the mayor from selling city assets without
11 approval of City Council. Now to conclude my
12 presentation.
13 If the same city law which I just
14 mentioned that will prevent the mayor and the boards of
15 local authorities from creating any more KOZs and are
16 not permitted to lease a city asset for long or
17 short-term leases at little or no rent, again, without
18 Council's prior written approval.
19 Next point of reference to judge
20 the mayor and City Council is if the same city law
21 states if and when a city asset must be sold or leased
22 in the future, the mayor or the local authority is
23 required to sell or lease the asset only to one who
24 will use the asset to produce proper revenue for
25 Scranton.

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01 The next point to judge the mayor
02 and City Council is when the same city law requires the
03 mayor to use all monies the city receives from sale or
04 lease of the asset to directly improve the quality of
05 life for all of Scranton's residents.
06 Some examples are to repair the
07 streets, reduce taxes, improve firefighting and police
08 work. No money for the parks and KOZs, at least for
09 the immediate future.
10 Now the people must come first.
11 The mayor must give the people recognizable relief from
12 their current tax burdens.
13 The next point of reference will
14 be deemed satisfied when Mr. Doherty shows the people
15 how each article and section in his recovery plan will
16 help cure his deficit spending.
17 For the past three years, the
18 Doherty administration has said that once it can put
19 its recovery plan into effect, all financial problems
20 and deficit spending will stop. It's time he informed
21 the people how.
22 In order to continue with the
23 policy of openness and transparency, either Mr. Doherty
24 or his designee who must have detailed knowledge of the
25 recovery plan and cannot hide behind an answer of I
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01 don't know, should appear at a public hearing before
02 City Council and answer questions to support
03 Mr. Doherty's claim that the recovery plan will be the
04 cure-all.
05 This will include answers to
06 written questions submitted in advance by citizens and
07 the city's unions to City Council for the Council to
08 screen them and then question Mr. Doherty's
09 representative.
10 Let's have a public once and for
11 all wide-ranging no holds barred question and answer
12 period on the mayor's so far almost secret recovery
13 plan.
14 The person who appears before City
15 Council should also be prepared to give an opinion on a
16 timetable to finally conclude this matter. This has
17 been dragging on for almost four years with no end in
18 sight.
19 The next and different benchmark
20 the people should consider to judge their elected
21 officials is when they see City Council take

22 recognizable steps to show the public it acts as an
23 equal partner in the operation of the city.

24 On this point I refer you to

25 Article II, Section 201 in the Home Rule Charter which
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01 states, The mayor and City Council jointly shall be the
02 governing body of Scranton City government.

03 The question is whether and how

04 City Council can convince the people it will no longer

05 bow to the mayor's threats of layoffs or payless

06 paydays or unpaid bills to force acceptance of his

07 deficit agenda.

08 Next is when the people believe

09 City Council will have the backbone to use its power of

10 subpoena in Scranton's Home Rule Charter for the

11 people's benefit.

12 The last point of reference is if

13 Council will pass a law which does not allow any city

14 asset out Council's ultimate oversight authority and

15 control.

16 If the mayor would like the asset

17 transferred to a local authority, it can be done with

18 Council's clear restriction in its resolution and the

19 deed that the asset cannot be sold, transferred or

20 leased without Council's prior approval.

21 I'd like to think City Council can

22 now do a much better job for the people because it

23 should be smarter from its sad experiences in the last

24 three years.

25 Finally, I request other

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01 Scrantonians from the silent majority and who did not

02 appear before City Council to do two things, first,

03 please closely monitor Mayor Doherty's agenda and

04 conduct against the benchmarks or reference points I

05 mentioned, then grade Mr. Doherty based on how much he

06 complied with them to improve the quality of life for

07 Scranton's residents; second, after you grade

08 Mr. Doherty, then grade each member of Council on the

09 reference points which apply to Council and how each

10 Council member voted. The grades will tell each member

11 of Council and the mayor what kind of a job they are

12 doing for the people who elected them and what they

13 should do to improve their performance for the people.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

16 Less Spindler.

17 MR. SPINDLER: Good evening,

18 Council. Les Spindler.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

20 MR. SPINDLER: Before I read

21 something, I have a few questions. Mr. DiBileo, could

22 I get a copy of that second deed for Nay Aug, would

23 that be possible?

24 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Saunders, if

25 you'd take care of that, please.

0019

01 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes.

02 (WHEREUPON, Attorney Walsh entered the meeting.)

03 MR. DIBILEO: Sure.

04 MR. SPINDLER: Okay. The next

05 thing is, does anybody know when the contract with

06 Adelphia Cable is up, how long that goes for?

07 MS. EVANS: I believe that expires

08 on midnight December 31, 2009.

09 MR. SPINDLER: Oh, okay. So, it's

10 quite a few years. Because recently it was in the

11 paper that in March the rates are going up again.

12 That's four rate hikes in the last two years. I think

13 that's totally outrageous. I don't know where they

14 have the nerve to come up with something like that.

15 I don't know if any of you will

16 still be the on the Council in 2009, but whoever is, I

17 think they should look for another provider.

18 MS. EVANS: Or some competition

19 might be very healthy, two cable companies.

20 MR. SPINDLER: I know there are

21 cheaper cable companies. Okay. Now I have something

22 to read. It's getting very frustrating when week after

23 week people come up to this podium with ideas and

24 questions and they either get brushed aside or totally

25 ignored.

0020

01 Here are a few examples: Almost

02 every week Bob Bolus comes here with many good ideas on

03 how to help this city, but whatever he says, never gets

04 a thought.

05 A few weeks ago Lee Morgan asked

06 why doesn't Council use its subpoena power. He has yet

07 to get an answer.

08 Last week Charlie Newcomb, Jr.

09 asked a question he said for six weeks, once again, it

10 fell on deaf ears.

11 Since last summer I fought to

12 abolish the pool fee at Nay Aug, even with written

13 proof and two separate deeds stating that the park

14 should be free and public forever allowing for
15 improvements and development.
16 To this date, Council has done
17 nothing, saying it's in the Recreation Authority's
18 hands.

19 Last week I got more information
20 given to me by an impartial attorney stating two
21 separate steps Council can take to make the
22 Recreation Authority stop the pool fee.
23 Once again, Council failed to act
24 stating they are waiting for a written statement from
25 Rob Farrell, the city solicitor. Do you think his
0021

01 answer will be any different than Attorney Kelly? I
02 don't think so.

03 As I left the podium, Mr. DiBileo
04 said maybe the mayor could or the Rec Authority will
05 come back with a decision to stop the pool fee. Well,
06 if anyone really believes that, then you must still
07 believe in Santa Claus.

08 The majority of this Council made
09 a pledge to work for the people, but lately I don't see
10 that happening. You're a legislative branch of our
11 government, you are a elected officials by the people
12 of our city, not appointed by the mayor, as the
13 authorities are, you have the power over authorities,
14 yet to this date, you have failed to use your power.
15 Recently I see no difference
16 between this Council and the one it replaced. If
17 things don't change for the good very soon, maybe
18 things will have to change on election day. Thank you.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

20 Mr. Spindler. Bob Bolus.

21 MR. BOLUS: Good evening, Council.

22 Bob Bolus.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

24 MR. BOLUS: Actually I had no
25 intentions of coming here tonight, for as you can see,
0022

01 other reasons, but, you know, when I watch going on and
02 see where we're heading and what's not been done, I
03 don't think I can let another week go by without
04 spending five minutes here.

05 You know, really what has been
06 done in this city? We see Southern Union, we see
07 Aventis or whatever they're called now, parking
08 garages, the Hilton. We see everybody out here.
09 We see Lackawanna Avenue, and I

10 need to know is that going to be a KOZ with the Rinaldi
11 project? Are their funds, their matching funds on the
12 table yet to go do this project? The SRA is already
13 threatening people over there to kick them out, so
14 we're going to lose tax dollars.

15 Weston Field, it was nice to see
16 it tonight, it's open and everything else, but what is
17 disturbing is the mayor had to put Restoring The Pride
18 in the middle of it and his name.

19 He's getting paid to do a job. He
20 shouldn't have to put his name on it. It should be the
21 taxpayers of the City of Scranton, the seniors that are
22 paying for that park, not Chris Doherty or the people
23 out there that he's squandering the money on.

24 You know, I was given a letter,
25 but I'll get to that in a minute, and Mr. Pocius had
0023

01 brought up about five minutes. True. You can say a
02 lot in five minutes, if we can get our answers.

03 I still want to know about the
04 pension that you and Mr. Hazzouri are getting and the
05 people before that. I'd like to see this Council go
06 after that money and finally do it.

07 And the reason I'm saying that is,
08 there's no issues in this city that we can't make
09 happen. If this Council would subpoena people in here,
10 you'll ge your answers. If you subpoenaed the mayor to
11 sit here with the fire department or the police
12 departments and negotiate those contracts here, you'll
13 get answers, but you can't just skirt around the
14 issue.

15 There's money out there that
16 belongs to us. There's a Home Rule Charter. It's our
17 money, we want it back, and I really mean that
18 sincerely. And I'm not going to stop until it happens
19 if I've got to waste every minute doing it.
20 Make a motion tonight, finally get
21 an impact fee, a maintenance fee, make everyone pay in
22 the city. Don't exclude everyone, but do it. Let's
23 stop talking about it.

24 You know, we pay a garbage fee and
25 we pay taxes and we got a garbage fee, so you can do
0024

01 it. It's proven already.

02 I received a letter in the mail,
03 and I haven't been in my office in over a week, and I
04 just happened to come in, and one of the people called
05 me. This letter is basically started off, I won't give

06 the individual's name, other than she's a woman from
07 the city, she's a taxpayer, she's not sure how she
08 should address the letter in order that it reaches me.
09 I can only hope that someone on your staff gives it to
10 me. Well, I have the letter.
11 It was a heart-wrenching letter to
12 know that we get this. I wish everybody on Council had
13 this letter, more importantly I hope Chris Doherty gets
14 one someday when he's squandering money on Carl Greco,
15 who couldn't even get paperwork done for the DPW
16 complex in how many years, and now we got to wait until
17 paperwork is done to get \$600,000? The deal was, you
18 vacate it, you pay us.
19 He took the money from the South
20 Side Complex, and we didn't get it back, that's why
21 people are writing letters like this.
22 What she is is a senior citizen,
23 and she just happened to be going through the channels
24 and saw Channel 61, and she saw that I brought up
25 something here, when I said when you're 70, and you
0025
01 have to go back to work.
02 Have any of you people stopped by
03 the McDonald's or the Burger Kings or the other places
04 and seen how many of our senior citizens have had to go
05 back to work because of the way this administration and
06 this mayor has mismanaged the funds?
07 He's borrowed money, he can't pay
08 it back. He's trying to blow a horn and say, Look how
09 great I am. He didn't put up the million dollars to do
10 Southern Union, but they're KOZ, they're tax free.
11 And the reason I bring them out,
12 they give us nothing. Let the citizens out there
13 around the city come and tell us how much their
14 business themselves have grown from all this other
15 business from KOZs and non-profits that have come in
16 the city to make up the tax deficit that people like
17 this has to pay.
18 She said, No one is moving in.
19 Well, she differed with me. She did come back here,
20 she came back here from New Jersey, bought a home up in
21 North Scranton, always thought she would be here. She
22 came back here in 1951 or 1995, I'm sorry.
23 She knows several people that have
24 been in the area. But what she's getting at,
25 Mr. Bolus, we are here because we want to be here, and
0026
01 that's great to here, Scrantonians want to be here, and

02 they're right, that's why we're here.
03 We love this area, we feel that
04 our roots are here. We believe to many we may be
05 out-of-towners, but you're not an out-of-towner, when
06 you're here that many years, you belong here and you
07 were born here, you come back here.
08 The problem is we can't get work.
09 I found that if you aren't related to went to school
10 with or friends with, forget about it for obtaining a
11 job. It's who you know and how we get there.
12 All she wants to ask is one
13 question why this city does not care about the senior
14 citizens, the taxpayers in this city, and why people
15 are allowed to abuse the Home Rule Charter, as
16 Mr. Pocius and Mr. Hazzouri have, and those before him,
17 including Mr. Doherty's father, who received a pension
18 from this city and those that received benefits and
19 everything else, and people like this may have to sell
20 their homes because they can't make it happen in
21 Scranton.
22 It's this Council's
23 responsibility, and it's not a place I wanted to be
24 here tonight, believe me, but this letter made me come
25 here tonight, and I hope this message gets out to each
0027
01 and everyone of you.
02 We have an election coming, and I
03 heard there's a new dream team coming. All it will be
04 is a new nightmare if that team ever comes back.
05 They'll be recycling Council again. Thank you.
06 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
07 Mr. Bolus. Thank you. Charlie Newcomb, Sr.
08 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Good evening,
09 Council.
10 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.
11 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: I'd just like
12 to thank everybody out there that sent me some letters
13 and a lot of Emails and asked me questions about if I
14 was getting petitions for an election, but the answer
15 to that this year is, I'm sorry to say no, because I
16 have to go in for some major surgery at the end of
17 March, and it's going to put me down for about 12
18 weeks, so hopefully in the future that will happen.
19 MR. DIBILEO: Good luck with that,
20 Charlie.
21 MR. NEWCOMB, SR.: Thank you.
22 Mr. Bolus just brought up about a garbage fee. Well,
23 ask anybody out there, I believe Mr. Spindler, this

24 happened to him last year, if you don't pay your
25 garbage fee on time, which they let you make two
0028
01 payments of \$89, Mr. Courtright, we went through this
02 with Northeast Credit Collections, if you don't make
03 that first payment by, like, April 30, there's like a
04 12 percent fee tacked on, then at the end of the year
05 if you don't pay it, you get a bill.
06 Now, that's for the year. You
07 know, they'll send you and say you're delinquent for
08 2002 or 2003, whatever you owe it for.
09 Well, I want to let people know
10 how this city pays its bills or our tax office. I have
11 in front of me -- I'd like to know why anybody else
12 isn't held accountable -- a check that I received in
13 the mail from the City of Scranton from collector of
14 taxes.
15 It's only a check for \$12.63, but
16 the point of it is this, the check was dated January 5,
17 2005, which was just the beginning of this year, and
18 I'm going to tell you what this check is for, it's for
19 a refund for my 2002 taxes.
20 Now, I know it's only \$12.63, but
21 if I owed the City of Scranton \$12.63, I guarantee you
22 that my name would be in Northeast Credit Collections.
23 But here it is right here, it's my
24 refund check for tax year 2002, and it's dated
25 January of 2005. You're supposed to have them out
0029
01 every year. And I'm checking back on some of my
02 records, because I even think I have some going farther
03 than that that wasn't given yet.
04 So, obviously what that means is
05 my employer took out too much local tax and I was due
06 \$12.63 back, but it took the city three years. So, my
07 question is, it's only \$12.63 for me, but how many
08 hundreds or maybe thousands of people out there got a
09 check three years later when the city got to hold all
10 this money?
11 So, it's just something for
12 anybody out there, when your garbage fee comes, to
13 think about how they want you to pay your bills real
14 quick on time, but yet here's a tax return three years
15 later in the mail.
16 Just one more thing on 7-D,
17 tonight you're going to be voting on the \$60,000
18 payment, and it has to do with the contract with the
19 OECD.

20 Well, my question is is for
21 consultants, I believe there's somebody a few people in
22 that office, but there's a person in that office, and I
23 believe the salary is \$52,000, but my question is, if
24 we have to pay -- not if we have to, it we do pay
25 people \$52,000 or more a year to do a job, and the
0030

01 mayor did say that he wanted to get the best people for
02 these jobs, well, I'm going to tell you what, if I was
03 getting paid \$52,000 a year on my job, and I needed a
04 consultant to help me do it and they were going to get
05 a payment of \$5,000 a month for 12 months or \$60,000,
06 well, guess what, the simple solution would be to me is
07 get rid of me at \$52,000 and just bring that person in
08 for \$5,000, because if they're a consultant, they
09 should know more than I know.

10 So, I really wish you would look
11 into this and see if this was shopped around for the
12 best deal or how this came about, but I really think if
13 these people can't run these office and do the job that
14 they're paid to do, we shouldn't have to come up
15 with -- this is just \$60,000, but I'm sure there's
16 hundreds of thousands through the whole city that we've
17 paid.

18 So, my question is, Please look
19 into this, and if you do not think it is a good thing
20 for the citizens of the city, please turn it down.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

23 Mr. Newcomb. Erik Johnson.

24 MR. JOHNSON: Good evening City
25 Council, and Lisa, and the staff.

0031

01 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

02 MR. JOHNSON: Gary, thanks for the
03 good prayer that you said for our service people. The
04 service hits home. My daughter may be called back
05 again.

06 I'm going to speak tonight about
07 the Scranton Downtown Senior Citizen Center. It's a
08 second home that cares for our senior citizens.

09 Yesterday was the Scranton
10 Downtown Senior Citizens' annual Valentine's dinner and
11 dance. Over 100 senior citizens attended the grand
12 event.

13 The ladies were dressed in their
14 best red outfits, and the men neatly dressed to impress
15 the ladies. It was a greatly happy sight to see our

16 senior citizens having such a good time smiling,
17 laughing, singing and dancing to the tunes of ballroom
18 music and Glenn Miller and Benny Goodman and Patsy
19 Kline music. DJ Mike Walton did a great job with the
20 assortments of music.

21 The senior citizens center
22 provides the elderly with bus trips to special events,
23 bingo, card playing, and at least one good nutrition
24 meal a day. The citizens want to thank all who are in
25 and are very grateful for those who speak up to support
0032

01 their senior citizen center in these hard times when
02 the support budget was cut to 18 percent, a \$2100 fuel
03 bill, a mortgage and food and other upkeeps to keep it
04 open.

05 Names that are mentioned so often
06 as usual is Janet Evans, which has been consistent in
07 her support. Another name comes up often right now is
08 Lee Morgan.

09 Management says, Lee, you would be
10 welcome any day for a treat of appreciation and to show
11 you around to the senior citizens and they would want
12 to see you in person, and through the workplace they
13 want to show you. Lee, you also impressed them as a
14 citizen speaker, they're telling me.

15 Also, there will be an important
16 vital fundraising event for the continuing operation
17 assistance of the center. There will be a fund-raiser
18 pasta dinner Italian style with salad dressing.

19 The fund cost is \$7 for an adult
20 and \$3.50 for children. The date is April the 23,
21 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. held at the senior center at
22 Penn Avenue, Scranton.

23 The phone number of the center to
24 get your reservations and tickets for the dinner is
25 3473970. For those who want to care for the senior
0033

01 citizens fund, and also enjoy a supper good meal.
02 Dee Dee, Joe and Mary Lou is doing
03 a commanding great job in managing the center. And you
04 really need an extrovert like Dee to save the center by
05 creating new ideas.

06 And there's one question I'd like
07 to ask, Bill Courtright, it was appreciated from the
08 center that you asked a question was there any money
09 left from the Pittston Avenue project job so that they
10 can give some of the money for the downtown senior
11 citizens, and I think there was a figure of about

12 \$400,000 that was mentioned, I don't know if it was
13 before or after.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: We sent the
15 letter out, Erik, to ask the administration. We
16 haven't gotten a response yet. When we get a response,
17 I'll let you know.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Well, they told me
19 to tell you they really appreciate that you're looking
20 out for them, too.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: You're welcome.

22 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. All right
23 And thank you for allowing me to speak. I forgot to
24 say my name at the podium here, Erik Johnson, taxpayer.
25 Thank you.

0034

01 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Erik.

02 Thank you. Lee Morgan.

03 MR. MORGAN: Good evening,
04 Council.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

06 MR. MORGAN: The first thing I'd
07 like to say is that, you know, we find ourselves at the
08 threshold of another election cycle, and the people
09 here still want change.

10 They're still not satisfied with
11 what has been done in the city up to this point, as
12 some other speakers have come up and spoke and they
13 would expect this Council to use its power of subpoena,
14 they want to see that tool implemented, they believe it
15 can yield a great dividend to this city.

16 I'd also like to say that we had a
17 meeting at the Hill Neighborhood Association this
18 previous weekend, and I would like to say that there
19 are a lot of people in this city that have a lot of
20 good ideas, but most of them feel threatened by
21 politics in this city, probably even on the national
22 level, and they're really afraid to get involved.

23 I think that's a terrible thing to
24 disenfranchise the voters. I think that we have to
25 welcome them into this dialogue to propel this city to
0035

01 change, and change is possible, but we look to you,
02 Council.

03 Evidently we're going to have a
04 very congested race for Council this year, at least
05 that's my take of, you know, basically what is shaping
06 up here, and I think that it's very conducive to every
07 councilman to ask everyone to come forward and accept

08 people's ideas and move this city in a positive way
09 forward.
10 You know, it makes us all feel
11 very proud to see the amount of people here today, but
12 61 has more people than you'd ever imagine watching and
13 they're waiting, they're waiting for change, they're
14 waiting for the Council to bring change, they're
15 waiting for the mayor to finally realize that the city
16 is in very, very bad financial shape.
17 All that can't be laid at his
18 feet. I'm not going to blame the mayor for everything
19 that's happened here, but I'm sure there's new ways we
20 can do things here. We just need Council to speak. We
21 need to stop borrowing money. There could be no more
22 borrowed money here.
23 There has to be a vision for the
24 future of this city. I'm waiting to hear the message,
25 but we don't seem to be getting one. It is it possible
0036
01 there isn't a message?
02 I think that we have to really
03 look hard and listen carefully to hear the voices of
04 the people as they ask this government to change.
05 We have an obligation to the
06 children of this community and future generations to
07 make the changes that are warranted for this city to
08 become progressive again, and not just talk about it.
09 It's all possible. It takes a step. We've made very
10 serious errors in KOZs.
11 Like I stated once before, only
12 one was in my opinion legitimate, and that was to save
13 Leonard's Hardware Store because of its future that
14 it's going to repropell this city and reinvigorate it.
15 It had a very, very strong history
16 here. At one time it was a speak easy. It's been a
17 theater for a long time. It was a hardware store and a
18 magnet in the downtown that was well-known here.
19 That's what KOZs were for. But to
20 allow Southern Union or Pasteur to come here, I mean,
21 Pasteur is holding the state government hostage telling
22 them that if we don't come up with \$14 million, they're
23 going to move to another country and make their
24 vaccines there.
25 Well, that's not a tool for
0037
01 redevelopment. We need jobs here. We need to create
02 at least one small business incubator inside this city.
03 We need to find one site for an industrial park that

04 can be reached by Colts transportation inside this
05 city.

06 We need a vision for the future.

07 That's up to the Council and the mayor to come forward,
08 whoever that Council is, whoever that mayor is, and use
09 community block grants for something real for this
10 community, instead of a giveaway for the people that
11 are connected.

12 We need to connect the poor and
13 the disenfranchised, that's what we need to do here.

14 And we look to you, Council. Thank you.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

16 Mr. Morgan. That's it for the sign-in sheet. Are
17 there any other speakers?

18 MS. KRAKE: Good evening again,
19 Council. My name is Nancy Krake.

20 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

21 MS. KRAKE: Tonight I have a few
22 questions about 7-D on the agenda that's pertaining to
23 consultant that the mayor would like to hire again for
24 the fourth year in a row.

25 My first question is, I know that
0038

01 Council met with Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance last
02 week, and is there a difference or was Council able to
03 ascertain a difference between the free services of
04 Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance and the National
05 Development Council?

06 MS. EVANS: I think the two main
07 differences -- well, actually there are three. On the
08 one hand NDC offers the Grow Scranton Program and
09 federal tax credits to investors in their loans;
10 meaning, I believe, if I'm correct here, it's not the
11 city that receives those tax credits or the small
12 business, but rather the investors who, you know, pull
13 the money into these loans.

14 So, those are two specific
15 programs that NDC offers that are not offered by NEPA.
16 But NEPA, on the other hand, offers, I'm going to guess
17 here, about 29 programs ranging from IT technology
18 programs, where computers can be purchased at
19 attractive it discount prices, particularly to
20 distressed cities, they also offer programs for the
21 development of international businesses, programs that
22 assist companies who would like to obtain government
23 contract work.

24 They've been -- they were formerly
25 the Pennsylvania Economic Development Council, and they

0039

01 have been in business for approximately 30 years. They
02 were used by the city until the end of the Connors
03 administration, and at that time, for whatever reasons,
04 the city no longer paid what its what is called an
05 annual investment, rather than a membership fee, and
06 that annual investment is based on largely the size of
07 the city.

08 And the approximate cost that we
09 were quoted for that annual investment was \$250 per
10 year. So, you know, as I said, although they have
11 occasionally been called in by OECD, that relationship
12 or membership, if you want to call it that, was severed
13 at the end of 2001.

14 And in addition to that, they work
15 with many local banks, and we were given perhaps, and I
16 I hope you're not going to take this time from
17 Mrs. Krake, because I realize I'm monopolizing this,
18 but since the caucus meeting was not attended by the
19 public --

20 MR. DIBILEO: Go ahead.

21 MS. KRAKE: Thank you.

22 MS. EVANS: -- I wanted to provide
23 this information. Mr. Moore, who is the CEO of NEPA,
24 was indeed a highly professional most impressive
25 speaker, and he provided us with the following
0040

01 example: If a small business, let's say, within the
02 City of Scranton needed \$100,000 in order to initiate
03 their business and they approached PNC Bank, for
04 example, for this loan, the bank will then require
05 security or collateral for that loan.
06 And let us say the potential
07 business does not have adequate security, they will
08 then contact -- they will perhaps offer that business a
09 \$60,000 loan, rather than a \$100,000 loan, and they
10 will then contact NEPA, who obtains its funds through
11 the state and federal government, to come in and
12 provide the remainder of that loan, and they will
13 assume much more of a high-risk subordinate position in
14 terms of the loan.

15 MS. KRAKE: So, in effect, it's
16 direct, the results we would get from NEPA, or the
17 business itself that applied for the loan. It's
18 nothing to do with an investor.
19 Like, NDC's claim to fame here is
20 that, you know, the investor, someone who already has
21 money, if you want to put it that way, is going to get

22 even more tax credits, versus small business who's
23 looking to start out, NEPA would be the person that
24 they would benefit the most from.

25 MS. EVANS: I would imagine, yes,
0041

01 that's certainly one way of looking at it.

02 MS. KRAKE: This is a shame then.

03 MS. EVANS: They will provide, and

04 this is something I did not note, and I'm sorry, their
05 loans are also for extended periods of time beyond what
06 would normally be offered by a bank or by NEPA.

07 NEPA is not going to offer, let's

08 say, a 25 or 30-year loan, but I think we also have to
09 keep in mind with that type of time extension, the

10 rate -- well, the interest that will accumulate over

11 those extended years is going to be enjoyed by NDC, as
12 well.

13 So, the city pays basically a

14 \$60,000 fee to partner with them, and then on, you

15 know, and then they're providing these loans, extended

16 loans at low interest rates. But, again, that profit

17 would be enjoyed by NDC.

18 MS. KRAKE: That's too bad. I'm

19 glad that that was exposed actually, though, and that

20 they met here and you also met with the

21 Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance.

22 We're already spent \$180,000 so

23 far for them, and I was also wondering, could the

24 monies that were paid have been used for community

25 projects like the downtown senior center that Erik was

0042

01 just speaking of?

02 MS. EVANS: Yeah. It's my

03 understanding they're payed with CDBG funds, so, yes,

04 those funds could have gone to the projects for senior

05 citizens or the youth of Scranton to help out with

06 neighborhood police patrols.

07 MS. KRAKE: So, we're also taking

08 from them.

09 MS. EVANS: Yes.

10 MS. KRAKE: That's very sad.

11 That's extremely sad actually. And also adding to

12 that, I'm sure that the many new jobs created in OECD

13 and their salaries could have also been made available

14 for community projects and neighborhood projects.

15 Thank you very much.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

17 Mrs. Krake. Larry McAndrew.

18 MR. McANDREW: Good evening, City
19 Council. Larry McAndrew, taxpayer of Scranton,
20 resident. Good evening, Council.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.

22 MR. McANDREW: I wasn't planning
23 on talking tonight at all, that's why my name wasn't on
24 that sign-in sheet, but I'm pleased at the outcome that
25 we have here tonight.

0043

01 It shows that, you know, gradually
02 we have concerned citizens that are concerned about the
03 City of Scranton here. I just -- I think in previous
04 meetings, you know where I stand about this consultant
05 group from New York City and how I strongly am opposed
06 to having them.

07 We already gave the \$180,000 of
08 our taxpayers' money. And what was the result? A
09 couple small restaurants that employs maybe two or
10 three people. That is not sufficient for the amount of
11 money that we gave to this.

12 I think Mr. Moore and his company
13 would be the way to go, and I hope tonight that you
14 vote and do the right thing and vote for eliminating
15 this contract with this consultant firm.

16 But I want to talk about something
17 else. Last Saturday, February 12, I attended right
18 here in this building, it was the Lithuanian flag
19 raising ceremony. Mr. Pocius, Mr. DiBileo, Mrs. Evans
20 also were here present.

21 What I want to talk about is about
22 the gentleman, this older gentleman, he was a short
23 gentleman, he was, I would say, 70 or 80-years-old, and
24 he came to this country, I believe it was, when he was
25 a younger man, he was only in his twenties, and he told
0044

01 us about his life story about how he escaped from that
02 country to come to America and how the Russian soldiers
03 shot and killed his sister and how he couldn't stop to
04 help her. He was so scared and so afraid of what they
05 would do to him.

06 But he came -- he turned things
07 around. He had determination and he came to America
08 and he made a success of himself, and that's why I
09 think it could happen here in the City of Scranton.
10 With determination, what our
11 citizens could do here, we could do the right thing, we
12 could do away with these KOZs. You walk downtown and
13 you see all of these buildings and you look and you can

14 point out which one are free, are getting KOZs. It's
15 not the right thing to have here.
16 I think by also attending a
17 meeting that we had with the Hill Association, the
18 neighborhood association, it's important that all our
19 citizens get involved at these neighborhood
20 associations.
21 I saw in the paper today where
22 this gentleman in the Pine Brook section donated a
23 building so we can have additional police protection in
24 that area. This is outstanding.
25 This brings back memories of the
0045
01 way things were in this city, the police protection
02 that we had. We need more of this.
03 I also read this morning in the
04 Scranton Tribune Mr. DiBileo's comments about the fire
05 department, that how we're going to the aid of
06 Dunmore.
07 Unfortunately they had three fires
08 in the last three weeks. We all know that they have
09 financial problems. They only have one fire truck and
10 they have three full-time firefighters.
11 I think it's about time that this
12 mayor would sit down with this other city, their City
13 Council, or their mayor, and have a discussion. I
14 don't think our firefighters should be put at risk, and
15 I don't know if anything would happen here, but if it
16 did happen, are we covered? Are these families covered
17 for us going into another city to fight another city's
18 fire?
19 I don't know the answer to this,
20 but I think our mayor should wake up and discuss it,
21 not try to, how should I say, overlook the situation.
22 It's important here that these are
23 things that have to be addressed, and it's important
24 that more people get involved. I'm pleased, again, at
25 the outcome that we had tonight. Thank you very much.

0046

01 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
02 Mr. McAndrew. You're correct, Mr. McAndrew, we do have
03 a great crowd. Even we have a baby in the audience
04 tonight who might speak later. Anyone else?
05 MS. WILLIAMS: Good evening, City
06 Council. Joanne Williams, Scranton resident and
07 taxpayer.
08 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.
09 MS. WILLIAMS: First I'd like to

10 start off if anybody has had a chance to walk the Davis
11 Trail during the fall and summer season? It's
12 absolutely breath taking.
13 It's so nice to see families,
14 elderly people, joggers, walking through this trail and
15 enjoying the beauty of nature. It's nice to have it
16 back again. It really is an asset.
17 And, Mr. McTiernan, you weren't
18 here a few weeks ago when I was here, and I would like
19 to publicly thank you for volunteering your time with
20 the playground at Nay Aug Park. I truly know that you
21 are -- your goal is number one for children in this
22 area. It means a lot to the residents.
23 Two weeks ago I came before this
24 Council and spoke positive on things in the city. Then
25 a week later, Mr. Newcomb came before you and said that
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01 I had insulted him and criticized him. That was very
02 untrue, and it was a personal attack, I feel.
03 I come here, not often, but when I
04 do come here, I talk positive about the city, because
05 that's the way I feel, and I'm constantly heckled when
06 I do come here. Maybe not this evening, which will be
07 nice if I'm not.
08 Also Mr. Newcomb did make a
09 statement, and I feel it was towards me, that because I
10 work for the school district, that I put food on his
11 table and why should I come up here and criticize him.
12 I know Mr. Gervasi comes here,
13 some other city people come here, and I respect them,
14 they have the right to come here and speak their mind,
15 but I don't think that that was fair for him to point
16 me out.
17 And you know what, I did some
18 homework. There's about 73,000 residence in this city,
19 and when you do the math, I'm probably -- he's probably
20 paying \$.50 a year for me to put food on my table, but
21 that's my right.
22 Also, he suggested that I turn off
23 Channel 61. Sometimes I do turn it off when there's
24 things that I don't like to see, but most of the time I
25 watch it, but also I do watch Conversations with the
0048
01 mayor, and Mr. Newcomb says he turns that off.
02 Well, maybe, and I'm just feeling
03 this, maybe he doesn't like the positive things that
04 are said or happening in this city.
05 I suggest that Mr. Newcomb, since

06 he criticizes Nay Aug Park, to go to the zoo and tell
07 the thousands of children and families about his monkey
08 story, and I'd like to see the feedback he would get
09 there.

10 Also, I think I would suggest next
11 year he go and stand at the donation booth up at Nay
12 Aug during the Christmas lights, tell the people about
13 the light bill. I'd like to hear some comments about
14 that, also.

15 The people didn't like things
16 happening in Nay Aug Park -- and, see, Mr. DiBileo --
17 MR. DIBILEO: I didn't hear
18 anything there, Joanne. I didn't hear it, or otherwise
19 I would have hit the gavel.

20 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. All right.

21 I'll give you the benefit.

22 MR. DIBILEO: I saw somebody back
23 there, but I didn't hear anything.

24 MS. WILLIAMS: You know, it's
25 like, Mr. DiBileo, when you were on the school board
0049

01 and they were building the new high school and I was
02 co-chairman of that, there was a pin we wore, If you
03 build it, they will come, and that's exactly what is
04 happening in this city, things are happening,
05 especially at Nay Aug Park, and thousands of people use
06 that park, maybe not so much in the winter, but other
07 seasons.

08 A few more things I wanted to
09 say. I'm trying to clarify what Mrs. Evans is talking
10 about, maybe Nay Aug Park being taken away some way,
11 maybe I'm wrong, but I'm -- I may be misunderstanding
12 you, okay, because that would really be, you know,
13 something that's not -- wouldn't go well.

14 MS. EVANS: Joanne, my intent, and
15 I'm not going to speak for anyone else on Council,
16 because they can certainly speak for themselves, my
17 intent is not for Nay Aug Park to be taken away from
18 the city, it's quite the opposite, I'm trying to
19 protect it.

20 I feel that there has been a
21 question posed by the people of the City of Scranton --

22 MS. WILLIAMS: How many? How many
23 people of the City of Scranton?

24 MS. EVANS: Oh, my goodness,
25 Joanne, countless numbers, countless.

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01 MS. WILLIAMS: And, Mrs. Evans, I

02 have countless that are really don't feel the same way
03 you do.

04 MS. EVANS: Well, I think we can
05 satisfy both groups with a declaratory action whereby
06 the question is placed before a judge, and if the judge
07 decides that fees may be charged at Nay Aug, then
08 that's exactly what happens, and if the judge decides
09 that they're prohibited, then the city ceases the
10 charge and thereby is able to retain the park.

11 So, I really don't see that the
12 ownership of the park is jeopardized, but rather
13 protected, regardless of --

14 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. You're
15 speaking mainly about the pool fee, am I assuming?

16 MS. EVANS: Yes.

17 MS. WILLIAMS: I'll be honest with
18 you, I think it's a little too high, too, myself. I
19 think it could be lowered slightly, okay?
20 But you've got to remember what
21 this city was like before this administration took
22 over, where it was going. It wasn't going too far, but
23 I am a children's person, so I understand. I'd like a
24 few more minutes because of that.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Yeah, don't take any
0051

01 time off of her as Mrs. Evans was speaking.

02 MS. WILLIAMS: I feel that why
03 things happen so fast at Nay Aug and in this city, and
04 I have to commend the administration and former Council
05 members, Mr. Pocius is one, Mr. Hazzouri is another,
06 and Mr. Murphy is another.

07 You know, they had a lot of guts
08 and a lot of strength and a lot of thinking they had to
09 do to move this city ahead, and they took a lot of
10 criticism.

11 Mr. DiBileo, last week, I just
12 have to say to you, that I don't think you gaveled
13 Mr. Newcomb out of line fast enough, and I just want to
14 say that I hope in the future when people come down
15 here, because that's why a lot of people tell me, No,
16 Joanne, I won't go down there and be ridiculed like you
17 are. You know, everybody has their say here, freedom
18 of speech.

19 And in closing, I'd just like to
20 say that this is our city, and I just -- you just have
21 to think, are we better off today than we were with the
22 previous administration? That's all the residents have
23 to really look around and see.

24 And as far as jobs coming downtown
25 and buildings going up, there's going to be jobs down
0052
01 there and there's going to be things happening. It's
02 coming alive. Thank you.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
04 Mrs. Williams. And I apologize about not gaveling the
05 speaker the last time you were here, and I'll try to
06 do a quicker job of it.
07 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you.
08 MR. DAVIS: Good evening, ladies
09 and gentlemen. My name is Dave Gervasi, I'm a
10 firefighter with the City of Scranton and a spokesman
11 for the firefighters union.
12 I'd like to just not talk as a
13 spokesman for the firefighters union for just a second.
14 The last thing I want to do is get in between a fray
15 between Mrs. Williams and Mr. Newcomb, but I think, I'm
16 not defending Charlie, and I'm not taking sides here in
17 any way, Mrs. Williams, but I think that it seems like
18 this town is complete polarized.
19 On the one hand you have, you
20 know, people love the progress, so-called progress that
21 the mayor is making and other people that kind of dig
22 into each of those nice stories, find out that there's
23 a dark side of the story, and I think there's a lot of
24 frustration.
25 And I, for one, have never come up
0053
01 here and criticized the mayor just to criticize the
02 mayor. I feel that a lot of things that he is doing is
03 very good.
04 I have a problem with the process
05 he takes to get those things achieved. I have a
06 problem with some of the ways he goes about getting
07 those things achieved. And to me, I'm sorry, but
08 progress at any cost is not the prudent way to run a
09 city, and that's how I feel.
10 And I come here week after week,
11 and many people come here week after week telling a
12 story with facts and documentation, things like no-bid
13 contracts, and even Mr. Pocius agreed with me on that,
14 that that's not the right way to do it.
15 There seems to be a pay to play
16 system in this town like there is in most political
17 organizations and most municipalities, and I think that
18 week after week people come up here and they find out
19 what is really going on and they find out the facts and

20 they find out not everything is as peachy as the
21 newspaper makes you believe.
22 I think there's a lot of
23 frustration, and I think maybe Mr. Newcomb and
24 Ms. Williams should maybe try to mediate this thing,
25 maybe, like, kind of cut it out a little bit, state
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01 your case, no heckling, and maybe Mrs. Williams can
02 maybe open her mind a little bit and see some of the
03 things that actually take place in the city that are
04 factual and that they're not right. It's black and
05 white that they're not right.
06 So, maybe hopefully those two can
07 settle down and talk about city business, and I'd like
08 to see that.
09 One thing I just wanted to mention
10 that, I mean, we've been saying for years now about our
11 financial recovery plan, and everybody thinks that --
12 there was comments made tonight that once this is
13 implemented, it's going to take care of all the
14 problems the city has.
15 Well, I want everyone to know what
16 the intent is, what's going to happen. I know as a
17 fact the vast majority of people did not read the
18 recovery plan before they voted on it, that's a fact.
19 I know two members of the mayor's
20 cabinet who did not read the recovery plan two months
21 after it was voted on, did not know what it actually
22 said.
23 I know one councilman that's up
24 there right now that came in front of our union when he
25 was running for office that didn't know what was in the
0055
01 recovery plan, that looked stumped when I was reading
02 from the recovery plan the problems we had with it.
03 I just want to make everyone
04 perfectly clear on this, the things that the unions are
05 fighting in the recovery plan have nothing to do with
06 the recovery of the city or have nothing to do with
07 financial aspects of the recovery plan.
08 The recovery plan gives the mayor,
09 the mayor, not the chief or the public safety director,
10 who frankly, I don't think, has the expertise to
11 restructure the fire department, determine how much
12 manpower we need in the fire department, what type of
13 apparatus we use, what kind of equipment we buy, how
14 many firehouses are out there, and until professionals
15 come into this town and tell us that we are safe and

16 the public is safe, and whatever, if it means a
17 reduction of manpower, consolidation of stations,
18 different types of apparatus, we don't have a problem
19 with that.

20 I just want you to be perfectly
21 clear, the recovery plan says, forbids any expertise or
22 any studies done on the restructuring of the fire
23 department.

24 That scares the heck out of me
25 that the mayor is going to have sole discretion to
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01 determine. Frankly, what it says is the mayor can wake
02 up on Tuesday morning in a bad mood and he wants to do
03 another no-bid contract for another pay for play
04 contractor that he has a pattern of hiring and decide I
05 need \$10 million, and just on a sweep of a pen, knock
06 off 30 firefighters and close four fire stations. It
07 gives him the right to do that. That's what we're
08 fighting.

09 I also want you to know what is
10 going on in Pittsburgh right now. Pittsburgh has an
11 Act 47 team and they also have a state oversight board.
12 They're getting a double whammy in Pittsburgh. They
13 have a recovery plan.

14 The recovery plan says we need to
15 reduce personnel by this much, consolidate stations,
16 close a few old stations, build a few new stations,
17 contribute more to your health care, things in that
18 order.

19 Pittsburgh's firefighter's union
20 just negotiated a contract under their recovery plan
21 that far exceeds the economic indicators within the
22 recovery plan. They not only stayed within the
23 economic framework of the recovery plan, they surpassed
24 it.

25 And I want this Council and the
0057

01 people of the City of Scranton to know that I
02 negotiated a contract, along with my negotiating team,
03 with the mayor that exceeded what the state wanted
04 within our recovery plan. That wasn't good enough.

05 The mayor simply wants complete
06 control and wants to break the backs of the unions so
07 we have no say in anything. Not no say on running the
08 department, because frankly we never ran the
09 department, the city runs the department.

10 I'm talking about safety issues,
11 an expertise that has an impact on the safety of not

12 only our members, but also the safety of the city.
13 And it's coming to an end pretty
14 soon. The next six months, I think, again, I think
15 we're going to win this arbitration.
16 The administration, I think, feels
17 that once they take us to court, because a lot of
18 decisions came down in favor of Act 47, what they're
19 not taking into consideration is our history the last
20 12 years.

21 We took the hits, we took the
22 cuts, we took more co-pays, we did everything -- as a
23 matter of fact, the unions in the City of Scranton are
24 the only group within the last two recovery plans that
25 followed the recovery plan to a T.

0058

01 The administrations didn't and
02 this administration, I'm sorry, I know some people
03 think everything is great, but this administration has
04 already violated their own recovery plan.
05 And to say that the implementation
06 of this recovery plan is going to save the city, this
07 is what it's going to do. This recovery plan already
08 could have been implemented. It was already
09 implemented on DPW, and they're \$300,000 overbudget on
10 overtime with the mayor telling them that he wants them
11 to do this project, when it was supposed to save money
12 on overtime.

13 The implementation of -- may I
14 finish my thoughts?

15 MR. DIBILEO: Finish your
16 thoughts.

17 MR. GERVASI: Thank you. The
18 implementation of this recovery plan happened on the
19 clerical union, and they got 30 percent of their people
20 laid off. So, I don't know if anybody calls downtown,
21 but sometimes when you call some of these offices, you
22 get answering machines.

23 The implementation of this
24 recovery plan -- in the last two recovery plans said
25 they have to update their accounting systems and go
0059

01 after people that aren't paying their taxes.
02 He could have implemented that two
03 and a half years ago. I haven't seen anything done.
04 What is going to happen is, he already -- he put us to
05 a surplus, which is a fact, whether anybody realizes
06 that, but us from a surplus, and possibly, because I
07 haven't seen updated figures in the last few months,

08 possibly into a deficit because of his frivolous
09 spending.
10 And what is going to happen now?
11 We may lose our jobs. We might get some cops knocked
12 off or some fire department personnel knocked off, the
13 worse case scenario that we feel, but you know what is
14 going to happen, we might lose our jobs, but don't feel
15 bad for us, because when we're not there, we can't go
16 out there and help these citizens of the City of
17 Scranton because the park is too important to have your
18 basic services like fire and police protection covered.
19 So, that's what's going to happen
20 when he implements the recovery plan. Bank on it.
21 Remember I said this. Make a copy of this video and
22 play it over and over so you remember that.
23 He's not going to collect the
24 taxes off the people that don't pay their taxes, he's
25 not going to upgrade the accounting systems. What he
0060
01 is going to do, he's going to lay off police and
02 firemen. That's the way it's going to be.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
04 Mr. Gervasi.
05 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Good evening,
06 Council.
07 MR. DIBILEO: Good evening.
08 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: I guess I'm the
09 center of attention here tonight. I had my name
10 mentioned nine times, which is fine.
11 But just to settle this, I'm not
12 an argumentative person, and I didn't start anything
13 when I came to this podium, it just seems that
14 Mrs. Williams has a problem with everything that I say
15 when I come to this podium regarding Nay Aug Park.
16 And just to clear a couple things
17 up, I have two nephews, one is seven, one is eight
18 months. I've taken both of them to Nay Aug Park a
19 couple times in the summer to see the zoo, walk down
20 the Davis Trail, I've gone through the Christmas
21 lights, like I've stated here before.
22 I think the park is gorgeous. I
23 think it is fabulous. I wouldn't have a problem
24 telling the children that are there the reason or what
25 is going on.
0061
01 I've had people from out of town
02 that have come to visit us that I've taken through the
03 park to show them the improvements.

04 On the other hand, I've taken
05 those people down the neighborhood streets to see
06 potholes the size of craters. They've watched the
07 Channel 61 meetings and see what goes on.
08 So, I have shown those people
09 those improvements, but I don't think it is fair to
10 say, and I'm saying it again, when there's police cars
11 out there that have 130,000-plus miles on them, cops
12 doubling up in cars, like I said, potholes the size of
13 craters.
14 That needs to be the priority, not
15 the park. And when you take care of those priorities,
16 then you can look into the park system. I think it was
17 done the wrong way. I think a lot of things in this
18 city are done the wrong way. It's kind of obvious.
19 For another example, Mr. Gervasi
20 said that the recovery plan forbids outside expertise
21 to be brought in regarding police matters with public
22 safety, but yet the mayor can justify giving \$60,000 a
23 year to somebody to do a job in OECD.
24 So, you have to look at the
25 priorities in this city and understand where I'm coming
0062
01 from. And if I offend people when I come here, I'm
02 sorry, but I get some good feedback. And some people
03 are bitter about what I have to say? I really don't
04 care.
05 And I'll continue to say what I
06 want to say, and if I offend people, I apologize.
07 Close your ears. I'm here to inform you of what I have
08 to say.
09 So, I never take offense to
10 anything people say to me. I'm not a fighter, I never
11 was, but I consider the source of everything when it
12 comes out of what people have to say.
13 You spoke before of an accident
14 that happened yesterday. I don't know what it is with
15 me, but I told you a story last year of what happened
16 to my neighbor regarding me having to do CPR on them,
17 and yesterday I was on my way home from work and I came
18 upon this accident right immediately after it happened,
19 and it was pretty bad to say the least.
20 But what I have to say is
21 Rescue 1 was there, and I can't even tell you how fast
22 they were there. And before that truck was able to go
23 into park, there was two men that jumped off that truck
24 to come over to assist in the situation.
25 And it ended up being four of

0063

01 them, and those gentlemen, and that they were, knew
02 what they were doing and they were fabulous at what
03 they did.

04 And it didn't take long for the
05 ambulance to get there. It was in probably within
06 seven or eight minutes, but those individuals from
07 Rescue 1 were truly, truly amazing.

08 And the time that it took them to
09 get to that scene, like I said, had to be two minutes
10 or less. And that is the reason why we need this QRS
11 system.

12 If that situation had happened
13 when I had a problem last year, I believe the outcome
14 could have been better.

15 But Rescue 1 responds to all
16 accidents with injuries and pedestrians hit with motor
17 vehicles, and if that response time was so fast there,
18 just truly imagine what could happen in these
19 neighborhoods if you have an elderly person that is in
20 full arrest or whatever the situation should occur.

21 So, this is the time to do that QRS system, and we
22 can't let it go any longer at all.

23 I'll ask again if we received a
24 copy of the electric bill that I asked for. Now we're
25 going on seven weeks.

0064

01 MR. SAUNDERS: Not as of yet.

02 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Okay. We'll
03 let that go. Any response -- I had asked on how many
04 vetoes we had last year from the mayor with Council, I
05 don't know if --

06 MR. DIBILEO: I think three
07 vetoes, Charlie, altogether.

08 MR. NEWCOMB, JR.: Okay. And I
09 was going to touch on the downtown senior center, but I
10 believe that was brought up before that you're still
11 waiting in response to that, also. So, thank you.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you.

13 MR. LYMAN: Raymond Lyman. I
14 wasn't going to talk, but I was just going to say
15 because of Mrs. Williams, you know --

16 MR. DIBILEO: Ray, can I stop you
17 for a second?

18 MR. LYMAN: What?

19 MR. DIBILEO: This is nothing
20 personal, but I don't think that we could take the time
21 at the podium to talk about our differences here in

22 public, and, you know, our bickering amongst each
23 other.

24 MR. LYMAN: Oh, I'm not saying
25 nothing bad, I'm just going to say about the city.
0065

01 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Go ahead.

02 MR. LYMAN: Okay.

03 MR. DIBILEO: If you can refrain
04 from talking about other people, I'd appreciate that.

05 MR. LYMAN: But this is about what
06 she said about Nay Aug Park and that. And you see, my
07 criticism is about Mayor Doherty.

08 Now, see, the things what I'm
09 saying is about Nay Aug Park, see, some things I like
10 about Mayor Doherty is what you guys vote about, you
11 know, your decisions which you guys vote about for him,
12 the City Council, and the things I didn't like about
13 Mayor Doherty was Nay Aug Park, the fees at that park.
14 I don't like that five-dollar fee,

15 because the poor cannot stand it, because it's kind of
16 racism, because I see the poor children standing at the
17 gate and all these other kids who are rich who can go
18 in there and the poor kids always looking at the gate
19 crying. Every day paying \$5 to get in, and the poor
20 kids can't get in.

21 Even if you have that pass,
22 sometimes the poor kids can't get a pass even before
23 that pass was started. And then there's other stuff
24 now, the other pools, when they had that dollar fee.
25 That should be eliminated.

0066

01 All because of that one lifeguard
02 said the word riff-raff, because one kid threw a
03 firecracker. That one kid should have been thrown out,
04 not because all the kids were bad. That was wrong.

05 All kids are not bad. All this
06 trouble was caused because of one lifeguard. And what
07 else I think is the poor is always treated wrong, and I
08 don't think that's right.

09 And the next thing I think is the
10 fire department and the police should end this union
11 contract and sit down with the mayor once and for all
12 and end this, because I'm sick and tired of hearing
13 Ms. Stulgis and Dave Gervasi coming up here and
14 complaining and complaining and complaining. It's week
15 after week after week, the same old thing, dragging and
16 dragging and dragging on.
17 Mayor Doherty should sit right

18 there and they should sit here and it should be
19 televised, and so should Council, and it should end
20 once and for all.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, ray.

22 MR. LYMAN: I mean, that should
23 end already. I mean, this is ridiculous. I mean, my
24 God, if necessary, if the firemen and police, if they
25 have any brains, they should go on strike.

0067

01 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you, Ray.

02 Appreciate it very much.

03 MR. LYMAN: I mean, it's true.

04 Thank you.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Are

06 there any other speakers?

07 MR. WALSH: 5-A, motions.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. McTiernan, do

09 you have any motions or comments this evening?

10 MR. McTIERNAN: Just a comment

11 regarding -- a lot of the speakers spoke regarding the
12 pool fees. I'm going to make it my business this week
13 to make contact with the mayor and see if there is
14 any -- let him know how you folks feel and how I think
15 most of us feel.

16 I think a tiered system is

17 probably in order for Nay Aug Park regarding the use of
18 the waterslide and the use of the pool, so I will take
19 time this week by the next Council meeting to have a
20 conversation with the mayor to suggest.

21 I'll only speak for myself,

22 because I don't want to speak for the rest of Council,

23 but I will speak with the mayor this week, and then

24 hopefully we will have some information or a least I

25 would have offered my input at least. Again, I won't

0068

01 speak for the rest of Council without direction.

02 That's all I have, Mr. President.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

04 Mr. McTiernan. And I appreciate that. I'm glad you're

05 going to do that, and I wish you a lot of luck. You

06 know, you may not have to speak for the rest of us,

07 because I think he already knows how we feel, so we

08 hope that you're successful with that, with a tiered

09 system. Mrs. Evans, any motions or comments?

10 MS. EVANS: Yes. I'm very pleased

11 to announce that the cameras for the DPW were delivered

12 to headquarters on Tuesday, February 15. I wish to

13 publicly acknowledge Mrs. Lela Malone and her daughter

14 Kerry Malone for their unselfish formidable
15 perseverance after the loss of their beloved husband
16 and father, who gave his life in the line of service to
17 our city.

18 This courageous mother and
19 daughter team initiated a campaign to purchase and
20 place cameras on all DPW trucks in order to protect the
21 workers and prevent future tragedies.

22 Out of their personal tragedy
23 arose a wonderful and long overdue improvement. I
24 admire their strength and courage, and I thank them for
25 fighting the good fight.

0069

01 And they're here tonight. I think
02 the citizens of Scranton need to see what two strong
03 women can do when they put their minds to it.

04 MS. MALONE: I would like to give
05 a lot of thanks and a lot of support from Council.
06 Bill, you helped me out a lot, Gary, and Janet,
07 especially you, thank you for all the help that you
08 have given us.

09 It's something we said we would
10 never give up on. It's something my daughter said he
11 would not rest until it was safer for the others, and
12 our hope is just that another family will not have to
13 go through the tragedy.

14 So, I really thank you that the
15 cameras are in, thanks for the help, the support, and I
16 really hope they get put on fast, that we don't have to
17 wait three, four, five months, another year. But thank
18 you very much, and I'm glad the job was done. Thank
19 you very much.

20 MS. EVANS: Thank you. I also
21 wish to thank Mr. Sam Vitras, without whose unflinching
22 support and efforts to protect these co-workers, these
23 cameras would remain a hope instead of a reality.

24 I thank Mr. Parker, who agreed to
25 purchase the cameras for his men. When management
0070

01 works in the best interest of labor, I found the end
02 product, the work performed, that is, to be very
03 successful, and I'm thrilled that the hardworking DPW
04 employees are at least, at long last, protected on the
05 job.

06 Because the Bush budget contains
07 sharp cuts in municipal funding that could
08 significantly decrease CDBG funding, our city could be
09 facing steep reductions in economic development,

10 infrastructure, neighborhood projects, senior and youth
11 projects, and neighborhood police protection;
12 therefore, we are in the process of contacting our
13 regional neighbors to ask them to join our efforts to
14 oppose such devastating cuts.
15 Tonight I'm going to ask my
16 colleagues to support a motion opposing cutbacks to
17 municipal funding. I move that Council Solicitor Walsh
18 draft a letter to Senator Santorum, Senator Specter,
19 Congressman Sherwood and Congressman Kanjorski
20 expressing the opposition of Scranton City Council to
21 cutbacks in municipal funding, particularly CDBG monies
22 and requesting their vote against the Bush budget.
23 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

24 MR. DIBILEO: We have a motion on
25 the floor and a second. On the question? I think it's
0071

01 an excellent motion, one that I was prepared to do
02 myself this evening, and I'm glad you do it, and our
03 community development block grant funds help so many
04 people in our community, and we can use every dollar
05 that we get, we really can't forward any additional
06 cutbacks, and I think this is a great idea to let them
07 know how we feel and hopefully they'll agree with us.

08 MS. EVANS: And hopefully other
09 municipalities, our neighbors, will join this effort
10 with letters of opposition themselves, and my hope is
11 that we can place all of these letters together as a
12 package to be sent to our senators and congressmen to
13 let them know how important these funds are to
14 Northeastern Pennsylvania and that we need them to
15 represent us on the Bush budget.

16 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Yes,
17 feel free anyone out there to contact your congressman
18 or senator yourself and let them know how you feel
19 about this, because it will really affect us
20 negatively. Anyone else on the question? All those in
21 favor, signify by saying aye.

22 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

23 MS. EVANS: Aye.

24 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

0072

01 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
02 ayes have it and so moved. And if you would,
03 Mr. Saunders, we'd appreciate getting that out right
04 away. Thank you.

05 MS. EVANS: I was also pleased to

06 read in this morning's newspaper that the Pine Brook
07 neighborhood will finally be served by its own
08 community justice program to address its various
09 problems.
10 For the past two years, residents
11 have made me aware of their problems ranging from
12 blight to abandoned vehicles to public drunkenness,
13 etc.
14 This is just one thing the
15 Pine Brook neighborhood needs. It needs more funding
16 from the city, as well. It needs its pool renovated
17 with a new liner and opened on time this year.
18 I congratulate the D.A.'s office,
19 Jerry Richardson, our police chief, Magistrate Kennedy,
20 and the mayor, for bringing this much needed program
21 to Pine Brook.
22 Kay, I do have a list for you this
23 evening, and I'll just run through the new requests
24 briefly. I need a letter to Ralph Pappas almost
25 immediately regarding the status of the demolition
0073
01 project in the plot; 1205 Pittston Avenue, I need a box
02 spring removed.
03 And it's a long story, I'm not
04 going to get into, but I just hope that after six
05 months, the DPW will please go down and pick up the box
06 spring so I don't have to send my husband to do it,
07 because last weekend I had him out picking up people's
08 leaves, so I hope I don't have to pick up a box spring,
09 too.
10 Plow Hailey Court when it snows;
11 a huge pothole in the 600 block of McDonough Avenue
12 where the street meets Hamm Court, please fill
13 immediately.
14 And I just wanted to add one last
15 thing that I really hadn't planned on this evening, but
16 Mrs. Williams, you posed a very important question
17 during your presentation tonight, and coincidentally I
18 posed that same question to myself just this week, so
19 we must think alike.
20 I was asking myself, Am I better
21 off than I was three years ago? Am I personally better
22 off? Now, I'm going to set aside the park where I'm
23 concerned. Yes, it's magnificent, but I frankly never
24 take advantage of it because I'm too busy.
25 I have two jobs, I'm my mother's
0074
01 caretaker, and I spend all my time taking care of the

02 people of the city, so I really don't get the chance of
03 to get up there and enjoy it.
04 And I'm going to set aside the
05 downtown development, because it is wonderful, but on
06 the other hand, it's eroding our tax base, and that's
07 going to fall on our shoulders sooner than we think.
08 So, I did ask myself, Am I
09 personally better off? And to me, better off means
10 this, Are my streets paved? No. Were my taxes
11 reduced? No. In fact, we've seen a larger tax
12 increase from the county this year than I've ever
13 witnessed in my lifetime. Yes, it's terrible and it's
14 the county, absolutely, 48 percent county tax hike.
15 Was my wage tax reduced? No. And
16 that's probably the biggest drawback to living in
17 Scranton. The wage tax strangles everyone who works in
18 this city who lives here and works in this city.
19 And, you know, so when I look at
20 my paycheck and I look at my tax bill and I drive the
21 streets of the city on my way to and from work every
22 day and to and from these meetings and all of the other
23 duties and responsibilities that I try to fulfill each
24 day, I have to say to myself, no, I'm not personally
25 better off than I was three years ago.

0075

01 But, you know, I'm not going to,
02 please believe me, I'm not denigrating the park or the
03 downtown, the park is a well-deserved long overdue
04 improvement, it certainly is, but now I feel there are
05 other projects that desperately need our attention, and
06 it's, you know, enough now with --

07 MS. WILLIAMS: If she's going to
08 speak --

09 MR. DIBILEO: Mrs. Williams, this
10 is Mrs. Evans' turn to speak, and I'm sorry. You'll
11 have to -- I'm sorry, Mrs. Williams, I'm sorry,
12 Mrs. Williams, you had your time, Mrs. Williams. You
13 talked about people talking from the back of the room
14 and you're doing it yourself now, I'm sorry.

15 MS. WILLIAMS: I will speak to you
16 to you later, Mrs. Evans.

17 MS. EVANS: Okay. After the
18 meeting?

19 MS. WILLIAMS: I don't know, later
20 when I see you.

21 MS. EVANS: Okay. I look forward
22 to it. Thank you. And actually, that's all I have.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,

24 Mrs. Evans. And I just want to personally thank Lela
25 and Kerry Malone also for the hard work they put into
0076

01 trying to get the cameras on the DPW vehicles, and also
02 I want to thank Sam Vitras and all the DPW workers,
03 because I know that there were some tense moments even
04 between you two, but what I know is that you were after
05 the same goal, and I'm just happy that together we were
06 able to achieve that goal. And thank you and thank
07 everyone involved. Appreciate it.

08 Mr. Pocius, any motions or
09 comments tonight?

10 MR. POCIUS: I will be very
11 brief. I just have to say one thing for the record,
12 just one thing for the record, I have never received or
13 do I receive now a pension from the City of Scranton.
14 Thank you.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
16 Mr. Pocius. And that is true.

17 MR. POCIUS: Thank you for
18 affirming that.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Mr. Courtright, any
20 motions or comments at this time?

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes,
22 Mr. President. Last week, I can't recall who it was
23 that came in and spoke about the fire hydrant over at
24 Scranton Prep being blocked in by a fence.
25 I went over there and took a look

0077

01 at it. It's not blocked in by the fence. Now, I don't
02 know if they moved it after this speaker spoke or not,
03 but it's not blocked in by the fence.

04 There is some ordinance regarding
05 blocking of fire hydrants. I don't know if we dug that
06 out or not, Jay, but I'm sure if anybody is interested,
07 Jay would be happy to provide it to them.

08 Two detectives in the City of
09 Scranton, Lenny Ash and Joe Lafferty, I'd like to give
10 them props. They worked with the FBI, local FBI and
11 the FBI out of New York, and they arrested an
12 individual believed to be involved in murder in
13 South Scranton, so they worked very hard with two
14 different agencies, and I just think they did a
15 wonderful job, and we'd like to thank them for that.
16 Dave and Kim, traffic maintenance,
17 do a fabulous job, and they helped out an individual on
18 Cabrini Avenue that's been asking to replace some signs
19 that have been gone for a long time, and I'd just like

20 to thank them for that.

21 There's a priest over at

22 Saint Ann's, Father Paul, who has been in this area a

23 little over a year, I believe. He was a priest for the

24 FBI in New York City and had many friends of his die on

25 9/11, and the fire department honored him this past

0078

01 Tuesday, I believe it was, right, and they made him the

02 chaplain for the Scranton Fire Department.

03 Now, last year on -- he had a 9/11

04 ceremony, and it was beautiful. They had a chicken

05 dinner afterwards, and he's going to do it again this

06 year, and it will be on 9/11, which will be a Sunday.

07 It's going to be two o'clock in

08 the afternoon, and I believe he said that all the

09 monies they made last year they donated out to New York

10 I think to the families that might have been affected

11 by 9/11, but this year he's going to donate the money,

12 and I hope I'm right, to the fire department of the

13 City of Scranton, whatever they make.

14 And if I'm wrong on that, I'll

15 come back and tell you so. But I'm going to

16 periodically bring it up, because we had a fairly

17 decent showing last year, but we should have had a much

18 better showing, so I hope that everybody would plan to

19 attend that.

20 It's on a Sunday afternoon, it's

21 two o'clock. A lot of people worked hard, and they had

22 a chicken dinner and he put on a presentation, and I

23 think that's the least we could do.

24 He's a great man, Father Paul.

25 I've known him for a short period of time, but I have a

0079

01 lot of respect for him.

02 The treasurer's office, I know I

03 bring them up a lot, but this time of year there's a

04 lot of calls. In the last couple of weeks for myself

05 and other Council members here, they've handled a lot

06 of problems for people in this city, and they're very

07 professional and very nice, and I just want to thank

08 them again for everything that they're doing.

09 Jay, if I can ask you, I've been

10 asking for this for a long time, I can't imagine what

11 the problem is, but on Forrest Glenn Drive at the

12 Fawnwood Golf Range, that hole is still there, it's got

13 to be going on five or six months, and it's a

14 depression, it's not a hole. Can we get some kind of

15 answer what we're going to do there, if anything?

16 I certainly would appreciate that.
17 And I'd just like to thank Bob
18 McTiernan. Him and I discussed about the pool fee last
19 year, actually it didn't work out the way I hoped, but
20 I'm thrilled that he's going to make mention of it this
21 year. Bob, I'd like to thank you for that. And that's
22 all I have, Mr. President. Thank you.

23 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you,
24 Mr. Courtright. Appreciate that. And I, too, would
25 like to extend best wishes to Father Paul from St.
0080

01 Ann's. I'm not even sure of Father's Paul's last name,
02 as the chaplain of the fire department.
03 Thanks also to the people at the
04 treasure's office who are helping out with some people
05 that are having problems with bills at this time of
06 year, Northeast Credit and Collection bills. And
07 appreciate that very much.

08 And I just have one thing. Last
09 week I asked Mr. Saunders to send a letter out to the
10 neighborhood groups and invite them to come before us,
11 if they would wish, to tell us about any announcements
12 they have to make, any positives in their neighborhood,
13 any negatives in their neighborhood, and after I did
14 that, I realize that that letter is probably a letter
15 that I should do and prepare, and also since I was
16 inviting people to attend our meetings, it's probably
17 something that I should get approval of my fellow
18 council members for.

19 So, I prepared a letter today
20 actually, and Kay helped me. And if I may, I'd like to
21 go ahead and just read it so people know what we're
22 doing, and I'll ask for a motion if they approve of
23 this to send it out to the neighborhood groups, and
24 this will go out to every neighborhood association.
25 On behalf of Scranton City
0081

01 Council, I wish to thank your neighborhood association
02 for its commitment to our City of Scranton, and in
03 particular your neighborhood.
04 As members of your organization
05 are aware, our neighborhoods are a lifeblood of our
06 city, and without vibrant neighborhoods, our city as a
07 whole could not prosper.
08 I'd like to take this opportunity
09 to invite more communication between each neighborhood
10 group and Scranton City Council.
11 As it may not be possible for

12 City Council members to attend as many neighborhood
13 meetings as they would like, I extend an invitation to
14 you on occasion to address City Council on any matter
15 you wish.

16 Feel free to inform Council at our
17 regular weekly meetings of any announcements or
18 positive or negative issues concerning your
19 neighborhood. Better communication between
20 neighborhoods and their elected officials can only lead
21 to a better working relationship.

22 Council will try to help you in
23 any way we can and we'll pass on issues of an
24 administrative nature directly to the appropriate city
25 department.

0082

01 Please notify our office in
02 writing of a designated representative from your group
03 that will be coming, and we will double the allotted
04 time normally given to speakers during the citizens
05 participation portion of our meetings.
06 Of course, additional time, if
07 needed, can be made available before or after our
08 meetings. Thank you again for your involvement in your
09 neighborhood organization, and we look forward to
10 hearing from you.

11 So, if I may, I'd like to make a
12 motion that we send this letter out to the neighborhood
13 organizations and seek some feedback from them.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

15 MR. DIBILEO: We have a motion on
16 the floor and a second. On the question?

17 MR. POCIUS: Mr. DiBileo, I agree
18 with 99 percent of the letter, but I think it's unfair
19 to the other groups that you're doubling the time for
20 just for a specific group, when we try to keep the
21 five-minute rule.

22 And I just think it's unfair that
23 we're calling this, but I have no problem with the
24 neighborhood groups. We used to have meetings in caucus
25 with them. We set them up.

0083

01 I don't know who was president of
02 Council, it might have been myself, it might have been
03 someone else. We gave them specific weeks to come in,
04 individual groups, and we'd make time and give them a
05 whole hour or half hour or whatever. That's the only
06 part of your letter I have a problem with. I support
07 the rest of it in its entirety.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Anyone
09 else? You know, regarding that, I gave a lot of
10 thought to whether or not we should limit neighborhood
11 representatives to just five minutes, and because they
12 may not be coming on a regular basis and may be coming
13 with some issues that may be a very serious concern, I
14 thought it would be appropriate to allow for the
15 doubling of the time allotment, meaning ten minutes.
16 If anyone else has any problems
17 with that, you know, please let me know, we can always
18 change it, if there's a majority that would like to do
19 that.

20 And as I said, additional time
21 before or after the meeting, we'll give you as much
22 time as you need.

23 MR. POCIUS: Isn't each and every
24 one of these people a neighborhood person out here,
25 somebody's neighborhood?

0084

01 MR. DIBILEO: They all live in a
02 neighborhood, yes, they do. But they're not a
03 so-called neighborhood representative who are going to
04 inform us in advance that they're coming with an issue.

05 MR. POCIUS: Like I said, I have
06 no problem with everything, I just think it's unfair to
07 the other citizens. If it's going to be ten minutes
08 for one, it should be ten minutes for everybody, and I
09 think five minutes is more than enough time.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Anyone else have any
11 thoughts on the ten minutes?

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: I think,
13 Mr. President, if they're going to inform us ahead of
14 time that they're coming for a specific issue and that
15 issue is going to take a little more time and they're
16 representing a group, then I don't really have a
17 problem with the ten minutes if they're going to be
18 representing a group.
19 Because I think, as you said,
20 they're probably not going to be here every week, and
21 maybe they'll save up a couple of their issues, you
22 know, and maybe come once a month or whatever. I don't
23 see the harm.

24 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Anyone
25 else?

0085

01 MR. McTIERNAN: I'm going to vote
02 for Mrs. Cook. Mrs. Cook is indicating five.

03 MR. DIBILEO: So, you're a five?

04 MR. McTIERNAN: I'm being
05 facetious. I'm putting levity into the situation.
06 That's all.
07 MR. DIBILEO: I just saw her with
08 her two hands up now. I don't know if that was
09 indicating ten minutes or what are you doing.
10 MR. McTIERNAN: Well, she weighed
11 in on Steel Street or Iron Street, so --
12 MR. DIBILEO: Any other comments
13 on that? Okay. If there's no further questions, all
14 those in favor of introduction, signify by saying aye.
15 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.
16 MS. EVANS: Aye.
17 MR. POCIUS: Aye.
18 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
19 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? By a
20 5-0 vote, motion carries.
21 MR. POCIUS: It's going to carry
22 anyway, so, no sense in arguing over it.
23 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. I
24 appreciate that, Mr. Pocius.
25 MR. POCIUS: I just said it was
0086
01 going to carry, Mr. DiBileo, so there's no sense in
02 arguing over it.
03 MR. DIBILEO: I appreciate that.
04 And that's all I have.
05 MR. WALSH: 5th order. 5-B, FOR
06 INTRODUCTION - AN ORDINANCE - ESTABLISHING A REVOLVING
07 LOAN PROGRAM THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND
08 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
09 LOANS WITH A TOTAL FUNDING OF \$140,000.
10 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll
11 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced into its
12 proper committee.
13 MR. POCIUS: So moved.
14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.
15 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?
16 All those in favor of introduction, signify by saying
17 aye.
18 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.
19 MS. EVANS: Aye.
20 MR. POCIUS: Aye.
21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.
22 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
23 ayes have it and so moved.
24 MR. WALSH: 5-C, FOR INTRODUCTION
25 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 45 OF

0087

01 1996 REGARDING THE COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR HISTORIC
02 PRESERVATION IN THE CITY OF SCRANTON BY UPDATING THE
03 LIST OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES.

04 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll
05 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be introduced into its
06 proper committee.

07 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

09 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

10 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

11 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

12 MS. EVANS: Aye.

13 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

14 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

15 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

16 ayes have it and so moved.

17 MR. WALSH: 5-D, FOR INTRODUCTION

18 - A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF
19 \$10,000 TO THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION TO
20 FURTHER THE WORK AND PURPOSE OF THAT ORGANIZATION.

21 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

22 entertain a motion that Item 5-D be introduced into its
23 proper committee.

24 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

25 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

0088

01 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

02 All those in favor of introduction, signify by saying
03 aye.

04 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

05 MS. EVANS: Aye.

06 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

09 ayes have it and so moved.

10 MR. WALSH: 5-E, FOR INTRODUCTION

11 - A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER
12 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A
13 CONTRACT WITH SUNGARD PENTAMATION, INC. FOR PURCHASE,
14 INSTALLATION, CONVERSION AND MAINTENANCE OF FINANCIAL
15 AND PERMITS AND LICENSING SOFTWARE FOR THE CITY OF
16 SCRANTON.

17 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

18 entertain a motion that Item 5-E be introduced into its
19 proper committee.

20 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

22 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

23 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

24 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

0089

01 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

04 ayes have it and so moved.

05 MR. WALSH: 5-F, FOR INTRODUCTION

06 - A RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

07 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO A LEASE

08 AGREEMENT WITH PNC LEASING, LLC FOR THE LEASE PURCHASE

09 OF THREE NEW PACKMASTERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC

10 WORKS.

11 MR. DIBILEO: At this time I'll

12 entertain a motion that Item 5-F be introduced into its

13 proper committee.

14 MR. POCIUS: So moved.

15 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

16 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

17 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

18 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

19 MS. EVANS: Aye.

20 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

21 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

22 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

23 ayes have it and so moved.

24 MR. WALSH: Sixth order. 6-A,

25 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 106, 2005,

0090

01 AN ORDINANCE - TRANSFERRING THE FUNDS FROM FUND 02

02 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNTS WHICH FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS LISTED

03 BELOW ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR THE CONDUCT OF CITY

04 BUSINESS, AND ABOLISHING AND CLOSING SAID ACCOUNTS.

05 THE FUNDS REMAINING IN THESE ACCOUNTS SHALL BE

06 TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND.

07 MR. DIBILEO: You've heard reading

08 by title of Item 6-A. What is your pleasure?

09 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I move

10 that Item 6-A pass reading by title.

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

12 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

13 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

14 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

15 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

16 MS. EVANS: Aye.

17 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
19 ayes have it and so moved.

20 MR. WALSH: 6-B, READING BY TITLE

21 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 107, 2005, TRANSFERRING THE FUNDS
22 FROM FUND 02 SPECIAL CITY ACCOUNT WHICH FUNDS AND
23 ACCOUNT LISTED BELOW ARE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR THE
24 CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS, AND ABOLISHING AND CLOSING
25 SAID ACCOUNT. THE FUNDS REMAINING IN THIS ACCOUNT
0091

01 SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND.

02 MR. DIBILEO: You've heard reading

03 by title of Item 6-B. What is your pleasure?

04 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I move

05 that Item 6-B pass reading by title.

06 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

07 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

08 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

09 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

10 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

11 MS. EVANS: Aye.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

13 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The
14 ayes have it and so ordered.

15 MR. WALSH: 6-C, READING BY TITLE

16 - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 108, 2005 - AN ORDINANCE -
17 APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE
18 IN THE NAME OF ABB'S INC. T/A ABB'S, BOROUGH OF
19 MAYFIELD, LICENSE NO. R-15256 TO THE STILL, INC., FOR
20 USE AT 335-339 ADAMS AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA,
21 18503 AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL
22 BOARD.

23 MR. DIBILEO: You've heard reading

24 by title of Item 6-C. What is your pleasure?

25 MR. POCIUS: Mr. President, I move

0092

01 that Item 6-C pass reading by title.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Second.

03 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

04 Mr. President, I'd like to just make a comment that
05 there's been a lot of controversy over KOZs and moving
06 things ahead, and this is one of the projects that's
07 moved along very rapidly with regard to KOZs, so we've
08 seen development in an area with regard to KOZ status
09 very quickly, so I'd like to congratulate the owners of
10 the new property, Mr. Benz, and he's here tonight.

11 That's all, Mr. President.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Also on

13 the question, Mr. Benz and his wife will be having a

14 grand opening, I guess we would call it, very shortly,
15 and they would like to have the liquor license in
16 effect at the time that they have this grand opening,
17 and because of that, after we vote on this legislation
18 in sixth order, I'll make a motion that we go ahead and
19 move it into seventh order for the sake of expediency,
20 but we'll do it after the vote.

21 So, right now we'll vote on 6-C.

22 If there's no further questions, all those in favor,
23 signify by saying aye.

24 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

25 MS. EVANS: Aye.

0093

01 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

02 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

03 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

04 ayes have it and so moved. Mr. Walsh, would I make
05 that motion now?

06 MR. WALSH: I think right now

07 would be the time for the motion to suspend the rules
08 and pass it on to 7th order.

09 MR. DIBILEO: I'd like to make a

10 motion that we suspend the rules and move Item 6-C into
11 7th order.

12 MR. WALSH: And, Mr. President,

13 then 6-C then effectively will become 7-F.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Yes, yes, it will.

15 MR. WALSH: And I would just point

16 out to the Council that prior to the vote on 7-F, we
17 have to give the public an opportunity to speak with
18 respect to that, because we're passing it on.

19 MR. DIBILEO: Okay.

20 MS. EVANS: Second.

21 MR. DIBILEO: Shall we do that

22 right now?

23 MR. WALSH: You can give them the

24 opportunity once it's read on the question to speak on
25 it at that time.

0094

01 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. We have a

02 motion on the floor and a second. On the question?

03 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

04 MR. McTIERNAN: Aye.

05 MS. EVANS: Aye.

06 MR. POCIUS: Aye.

07 MR. COURTRIGHT: Aye.

08 MR. DIBILEO: Aye. Opposed? The

09 ayes have it and so moved.

10 MR. WALSH: Seventh order. 7-A,
11 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR
12 ADOPTION - FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 103, 2005 - AMENDING THE
13 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON, AS
14 CODIFIED SECTION 6-13 - APPROPRIATION, OTHERWISE
15 REFERRED TO AS ARTICLE VI, SECTION 602-APPROPRIATION,
16 WITHIN FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 66, 1984, AN ORDINANCE,
17 AS AMENDED, AND WITHIN FILE OF COUNCIL NO. 29, 1994, AN
18 ORDINANCE, THEREBY AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
19 195, 2003 TO THE EXTENT IT IS INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

20 MR. DIBILEO: As chairman for the
21 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of
22 Item 7-A.

23 MS. EVANS: Second.

24 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

25 MS. EVANS: Yes. This is the
0095

01 legislation that involves the transfer of funds.

02 MR. DIBILEO: That's right.

03 MS. EVANS: And once again,

04 Council is simply returning a procedure to its prior
05 status before July 2003, when the previous Council
06 altered it. I sincerely hope the mayor does not
07 obstruct Council's attempt to implement financial
08 checks and balances.

09 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Anyone
10 else? As Mrs. Evans said, 18 months ago, the way it
11 was, as far as interdepartmental transfers is just this
12 way, and this is returning it to the way it was 18
13 months ago.

14 I think somebody mentioned from
15 the podium when Mayor Doherty was then
16 Councilman Finance Chairman Doherty, this is the exact
17 way that transfers interdepartmentally were handled,
18 and I'm in favor of returning it to the way it was at
19 that point in time. If there's no further questions,
20 roll call, please, Kay.

21 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

22 MR. McTIERNAN: No.

23 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

24 MS. EVANS: Yes.

25 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

0096

01 MR. POCIUS: No.

02 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

03 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

04 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

05 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. By a 3-2 vote,

06 I hereby declare Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.
07 MR. WALSH: 7-B, FOR CONSIDERATION
08 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
09 COUNCIL NO. 104, 2005 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL NO.
10 231, 2003, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED 2004 OPERATING BUDGET
11 BY TRANSFERRING \$10,342.47 FROM ACCOUNT
12 NO. 01.401.15230.4299 (TAN SERIES A) AND \$1,657.53 FROM
13 ACCOUNT NO. 01.401.10140.4299 (CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
14 OPERATING EXPENSES) FOR A TOTAL TRANSFER AMOUNT OF
15 \$12,000.00 TO ACCOUNT NO. 01.051.00082.4446 (CITY
16 STEAM.)

17 MR. DIBILEO: What's the
18 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on
19 finance?

20 MS. EVANS: As chair for the
21 committee on finance, I recommend final passage of Item
22 7-B.

23 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

24 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

25 Roll call, please, Kay.

0097

01 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

02 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

03 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

04 MS. EVANS: Yes.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

06 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

07 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

08 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

10 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

11 declare Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MR. WALSH: 7-C, FOR CONSIDERATION

13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF
14 COUNCIL NO. 105, 2005 - AMENDING FILE OF COUNCIL
15 NO. 189, 2003, AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED SALE OF TAX
16 DELINQUENT PROPERTY AT PIKE, IRON AND SENECA STREETS,
17 SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA TO SALE OF TAX DELINQUENT
18 PROPERTY AT HB ROCKWELL TR, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO
19 LCL MORGAN 2 ASSOCIATES, LLC, 322 ROUTE 46 WEST
20 PARSIPPANY, N.J. 07054-2397 FOR THE SUM OF \$14,000.00.

21 MR. DIBILEO: What's the
22 recommendation of the chairperson for the committee on
23 finance?

24 MS. EVANS: As chair for the
25 committee on finance, I recommend final passage of
0098

01 Item 7-C.

02 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.
03 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?
04 Roll call, please, Kay.
05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.
06 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.
07 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.
08 MS. EVANS: Yes.
09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.
10 MR. POCIUS: Yes.
11 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.
12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.
13 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.
14 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby
15 declare Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.
16 MR. WALSH: 7-D, FOR CONSIDERATION
17 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION
18 NO. 116, 2005 - APPROVING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF
19 THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SCRANTON AND THE
20 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (NDC) AND AUTHORIZING THE
21 MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE
22 AND ENTER INTO THE CONTRACT TO RETAIN NATIONAL
23 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING
24 SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
25 DEVELOPMENT (OECD) FOR A COST OF \$5,000.00 PER MONTH,
0099
01 NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000.00 PAYMENT OF WHICH WILL COME
02 FROM OECD. CONTRACT TO EXPIRE ON JANUARY 31, 2005.
03 MR. DIBILEO: As chairperson for
04 the committee on rules, I do not recommend final
05 passage of --
06 MR. WALSH: Gary, you were going
07 to recommend it and then either party can vote either
08 way, correct?
09 MR. DIBILEO: I'm sorry.
10 As chairperson for the committee on rules, I recommend
11 final passage of Item 7-D.
12 MR. McTIERNAN: Seconded.
13 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?
14 MS. EVANS: Yes. Four weeks ago I
15 requested the complete file of NDC for the years 2002,
16 2003 and 2004.
17 Today I did receive the
18 information. It turns out to be 12 or 13 pages, all of
19 which say precisely the same thing, Technical service
20 provided for the month of January 2004, for example,
21 \$5,000. No breakdown as to what those services were
22 for.
23 I had requested the complete file,

24 memos, emails, invoices, paid bills, and it took four
25 weeks to send me 12 pages, for only one year, by the
0100

01 way, 2004, and it all indicates basically nothing.

02 And then again, it took, you know

03 -- this costs \$60,000 per year, and that took four

04 weeks. NEPA, on the other hand, costs approximately

05 \$250 per year.

06 But as I mentioned earlier, we

07 dropped our membership and we picked up NDC in its

08 place at a cost of now \$180,000.

09 Now I'm asked quite suddenly to

10 pay a sixty -- I'm looking at it this way, a \$60,000

11 fee to be able to borrow \$3 million in loans from PNC

12 Bank. That's enough said.

13 I would like to take the \$60,000

14 that's planned in payment to NDC, and I would like that

15 money to go to the Downtown Senior Center and to Sloan

16 Little League for improvement of their little league

17 fields.

18 MR. WALSH: Mr. DiBileo, I would

19 simply point out, I want to make sure of what exactly

20 the recommendation is and what the second is that we're

21 voting on, I just want to make sure of that, that you

22 made a recommendation to pass it and then it was second

23 on. I just don't remember exactly what the motion was.

24 I just want to make sure for purposes of the record

25 that we know --

0101

01 MR. DIBILEO: Right now we're on

02 the question on 7-D.

03 MR. WALSH: That's correct. But I

04 just want to make sure before the vote takes place, and

05 that's why on the question I asked that question.

06 MR. DIBILEO: That's all we're

07 dealing with right now is 7-D.

08 MR. WALSH: That's correct. But I

09 just want to make sure of what the actual motion is, is

10 it a motion to --

11 MS. EVANS: No. I didn't make a

12 motion, that was a comment.

13 MR. WALSH: No, no. I'm saying on

14 the original motion, right now I believe that

15 Mrs. Evans is on the question with respect to 7-D. I

16 just want to make sure for purposes of the record

17 exactly what the recommendation is that was made and

18 seconded, so when the vote comes down, it's voted the

19 way people -- council people would like to vote.

20 I don't -- because there was some
21 confusion when the motion was made, I just want to make
22 sure that if you made the motion to recommend it and
23 that was seconded, then, you know, a yes vote mean to
24 accept it, a no vote would be to reject it.
25 I think that that's the way it is
0102
01 on the record, but I'm not sure. I just want to make
02 sure.
03 MR. DIBILEO: Well, obviously we
04 want to get the yes and no vote correctly.
05 MR. WALSH: And that's why I bring
06 it up on the question.
07 MR. DIBILEO: I have further
08 comments, but prior to that, let's get that straight.
09 A yes vote will be in favor of passing the legislation
10 and a no vote will be in favor of declining the
11 legislation.
12 MS. EVANS: Yes to renew, no to
13 terminate.
14 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Got that. If
15 I may take this time, I just think that, in my opinion,
16 our investment in the National Development
17 Corporation's contract, and particularly The Grow
18 scranton Fund probably has not panned out the first
19 three years as the mayor probably would have hoped.
20 As Mrs. Evans said, NDC handled
21 five loans of small businesses, and small businesses
22 are important, but it cost us \$180,000 to do that.
23 We went through about one half of
24 the \$900,000 that has been set aside. So, about
25 \$450,000 right now was revolving, and as those five
0103
01 businesses pay the loan back, it replenishes the
02 account. So, we only went through about half of the
03 allotted amount in the first three years.
04 So, if you look at it that way,
05 each loan cost the city \$36,000. So, it really hasn't
06 panned out all that well so far.
07 I had three conversations today
08 with the director of the National Development
09 Corporation, Kevin McGlaughlin, who came before us a
10 few weeks ago and made a presentation about his
11 company, and I talked to him mainly in regard to the
12 portion of what they do that I'm most interested in,
13 and that is The Grow Scranton Fund. I think that's
14 what most people are concerned about, The Grow Scranton
15 Fund.

16 And I actually tried to find a
17 middle ground. I asked Mr. McGlaughlin if he would
18 consider providing just The Grow Scranton Fund for the
19 city and basically eliminate the other services that
20 they provide, and I asked him if he could consider
21 doing that for \$30,000, which would be one half the
22 fee.

23 He told me that he'd have to go to
24 his boss and get back to me with an answer on that, and
25 he called me back and he said that they weren't willing
0104

01 to do that, that the fee would remain the same.
02 That \$60,000 actually pays the
03 salary of all five of us sitting up her on City
04 Council. I think we total \$60,000. That's a lot of
05 money.

06 NEPA Alliance could basically do
07 almost everything that NDC is doing, but as Mrs. Evans
08 said, for free, and they're willing to work on getting
09 loans for people. We want small business to get
10 loans.

11 I also spoke to the PNC Bank
12 president today, and why is his name escaping me right
13 now, Peter Danchick, spoke to him today and we had a
14 conversation regarding the agreement that PNC Bank has
15 made with NDC's Grow Scranton Fund.

16 First of all, I applaud PNC for
17 stepping to the plate and adding \$3 million to the pot,
18 okay? We've only gone through half of the \$900,000.
19 They're adding another \$3 million, if it's ever needed.
20 But they did tell me that that agreement is not
21 exclusive to Scranton.

22 They made the agreement here in
23 Scranton, and they want it to be for Scranton, but they
24 will allow NDC and any territory that they operate from
25 to go into that \$3 million.

0105

01 A couple areas were mentioned,
02 Lancaster, Pennsylvania, NDC operates down there, so
03 does PNC. Loans can be given out of this \$3 million in
04 Lancaster.

05 Cherry Hill, New Jersey, NDC
06 operates down there and has an agreement with that
07 municipality. PNC Bank is there, also. Part of that
08 \$3 million can be loaned there.

09 I'm not saying that as a negative,
10 I'm just saying that that agreement wasn't made
11 strictly for Scranton, it's not exclusive.

12 So, you know, I do realize that we
13 have to reign in our expenses, and when the Doherty
14 administration took over, the free consultant was --
15 work with that consultant was stopped, work with the
16 NDC for \$60,000 was begun.
17 Personally I don't think it's
18 worked out as greatly as maybe the mayor had hoped. So,
19 some would like you to believe, though, that some
20 members of City Council are anti-economic development,
21 and I want to talk a little bit about that.
22 I'm going to tell you that over
23 the last 13 months, since I became president of
24 City Council, and since Mr. Courtright joined City
25 Council, since Mrs. Evans joined City Council, since
0106
01 Mr. McTiernan joined City Council, but Mr. Pocius and I
02 were both here prior, but since that time, the start of
03 2004, we've had 235 pieces of legislation before us on
04 our agenda.
05 The three people here voted
06 negatively on four pieces of legislation, and I want to
07 tell you what those four negative votes were. Nothing
08 personal, Mr. Pocius, but two of them were Ceco
09 contracts, your engineering firm that you work with.
10 The mayor was attempting to give
11 more work to Ceco. Some of us feel as though that's a
12 conflict of interest.
13 We did vote in favor of adding to
14 the existing contracts that you're working on, but we
15 didn't vote in favor of any new contracts for Ceco.
16 The other two negative votes were
17 two appointments to boards. I'm not going to mention
18 any names. There were reasons for what we did, and we
19 did it.
20 But if you calculate that, that's
21 98.3 percent of the time we voted in favor of
22 legislation that came from the administration. That's
23 a pretty good positive record.
24 None of the votes were against
25 economic development whatsoever. So, don't believe it
0107
01 when you see it, don't believe it when you read it.
02 Something tells me that our one
03 newspaper is looking to make a big story out of this
04 issue that we're voting on right now.
05 Also let me tell you that there
06 were three vetoes involved. I was asked a question
07 tonight. Let me tell you what the three vetoes were.

08 The three vetoes were attempting to lower the bidding
09 limits for the city so that more bids would go out and
10 we could guarantee our best bang for the buck. That
11 was a 3 to 2 vote, and the mayor vetoed that and he got
12 his wish on that.

13 The second vote was for City

14 Council having a say in the pool fees at Nay Aug Park.

15 That was a 3-2 vote. The mayor vetoed that and the
16 mayor got his wish there. Council has no say in Nay
17 Aug Park's fees.

18 The third one was just about two

19 months ago, we voted to prepare our own budget for
20 2005, because we tried to eliminate the \$4 million loan
21 that was part of the mayor's budget. We didn't want to
22 borrow any more money.

23 We tried to take \$4 million and

24 replace that loan with some revenue items and some
25 expenditures being eliminated. Well, that was a 3-2
0108

01 vote. The mayor vetoed that and the mayor got his
02 wish.

03 So, that's what happened with what

04 we wanted to do and what we couldn't. And the four
05 votes against what, let's say, the administration
06 wanted to do and didn't.

07 So, don't believe that anybody up

08 here is against economic development, because we are
09 not. That's all I have to say on that topic.

10 Anyone else on the question?

11 MR. COURTRIGHT: Just real

12 briefly, Mr. President. Whatever way the vote goes, I
13 think this city has no choice but to take a look at

14 NEPA and to deal with Mr. Moore.

15 He had a host of things he could

16 help us with that we basically had to cut him short

17 because he was in our caucus in the back.

18 Whether the vote goes for or

19 against, I think the city ought to aggressively seek

20 him out and see his council. He has an awful lot of

21 programs and I don't think we've taken advantage of it.

22 I think we should.

23 MR. WALSH: So, Mr. DiBileo, then

24 the motion is to approve 7-D, and that's what's

25 seconded and that's what you'll be voting on yes to

0109

01 approve, and no to disapprove?

02 MR. DIBILEO: That's right. Yes

03 to approve and no to disapprove.

04 MR. WALSH: Just wanted to make
05 sure.

06 MR. McTIERNAN: Mr. DiBileo, just
07 to comment. I agree with Mr. Courtright. I thing
08 regardless of the outcome here, we should act on
09 reinitiating our relationship with NEPA. For that kind
10 of money, it's not worth having those folks at least
11 accessible, but that's for another time, I suppose.

12 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. Anyone
13 else?

14 MR. POCIUS: I won't comment on the
15 issue. Let's just -- why don't we just vote? I
16 couldn't comment on some of the stuff that was said.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. DIBILEO: Okay. Thank you.

19 I'll comment one more thing. I don't want to speak too
20 soon, but just prior to what we're voting on now, we
21 had a 3-2 vote.

22 Something tells me there might be
23 one more veto coming, and that could be returning
24 interdepartmental transfers back to the way they were
25 18 months ago. Something tells me that may not happen.
0110

01 I don't want to speak too soon or get too negative, but
02 I thought I'd mention it.

03 If there's no further questions,
04 I'll ask call Kay for a roll call vote, please.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

06 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

07 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

08 MS. EVANS: No.

09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

10 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

11 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: No.

13 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

14 MR. DIBILEO: No.

15 By a 3-2 vote, I declare that 7-D does not legally and
16 lawfully become adopted.

17 MR. WALSH: 7-E, FOR CONSIDERATION

18 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION

19 NO. 127, 2005 - AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER

20 APPROPRIATE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A PERFORMANCE

21 LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR MUNICIPALITIES WITH SESAC, INC.

22 TO LICENSE THE PERFORMANCE OF MUSIC IN CITY OF SCRANTON

23 EVENTS FOR A FLAT ANNUAL FEE OF \$717.00.

24 MR. DIBILEO: As chairman for the

25 committee on rules, I recommend final passage of Item

0111

01 7-E.

02 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

03 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

04 Roll call, please, Kay.

05 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

06 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

07 MS. GARVEY: Ms. Evans.

08 MS. EVANS: Yes.

09 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

10 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

11 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

12 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

13 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

15 declare Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

16 I'm sorry. We have to take 6-C and move that into 7-F.

17 Thank you. And at this time I'll ask if any members of

18 the audience would like to comment on 7-F, formerly

19 6-C, and that is the liquor license transfer. If

20 not --

21 MR. WALSH: 7-F, FOR CONSIDERATION

22 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF

23 COUNCIL NO. 108, 2005, AN ORDINANCE - APPROVING THE

24 TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE IN THE NAME OF

25 ABB'S INC. T/A ABB'S, BOROUGH OF MAYFIELD, LICENSE

0112

01 NO. R-15256 TO THE STILL, INC., FOR USE AT 335-339

02 ADAMS AVENUE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503 AS REQUIRED

03 BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

04 MR. DIBILEO: As chairperson for

05 the committee on rules, I recommend final passage of

06 Item 7-F.

07 MR. POCIUS: Seconded.

08 MR. DIBILEO: On the question?

09 MR. POCIUS: I just wish the new

10 owners much success in their business and thank you for

11 having faith in Scranton.

12 MS. EVANS: Yes, best of luck.

13 And, please, stay with us for more than ten years.

14 MR. DIBILEO: Thank you. If

15 there's no further questions, roll call, please, Kay.

16 MS. GARVEY: Mr. McTiernan.

17 MR. McTIERNAN: Yes.

18 MS. GARVEY: Mrs. Evans.

19 MS. EVANS: Yes.

20 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Pocius.

21 MR. POCIUS: Yes.

22 MS. GARVEY: Mr. Courtright.

23 MR. COURTRIGHT: Yes.

24 MS. GARVEY: Mr. DiBileo.

25 MR. DIBILEO: Yes. I hereby

0113

01 declare Item 7-F legally and lawfully adopted.

02 Seeing no further work on our agenda, I'll entertain a

03 motion that we adjourn.

04 MR. COURTRIGHT: So moved.

05 MS. EVANS: Second.

06 MR. DIBILEO: We're adjourned.

07

08 (MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.)

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01 CERTIFICATE

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I hereby certify that the proceedings and
evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
notes taken by me on the hearing of the above cause and
that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to
the best of my ability.

LISA M. GRAFF, RPR
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

